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PUBLICITY FOR COUNCIL SPENDING

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lon Mayor Boris Johnson got a taste of the Garden of England this week as he met representatives promoting the cream of the county's crop. And among them was Mark Gaskain who runs Norham Farm in Selling (pictured holding the hamper). The meeting was held to help producers supply the capital with food - in particular schools, councils and hospitals

BY NICK AMES

COUNCIL chiefs have been blasted for splashing out £632,000 on PR and publicity - and told to "hang their head in shame" by a pressure group.

But Swale council has defended the figures brought into the open this week in a survey conducted by lobby group the Taxpayers' Alliance.

It claims the splurge was justified and a necessary expense to keep residents informed.

The figures were highlighted as they represent an 89 per cent increase on the figure for the previous 12 months of £381,000.

It was also one of just three local authorities in Kent which recorded an upsurge in spending The above was also as the second of the second o

ing. The others were Ashford and Sevenoaks
Of the figure spent by Swale, a total of
£115,000 was received towards it in the form of arts grants.

But it has invoked the wrath of the Taxpayers' Alliance, which monitors how local

authorities spend their cash.

Matthew Elliott, the group's chief executive, said of the figures across the UK: "It is incredibly disappointing that, despite the economic downturn and the loss of millions in Icelandic banks, UK local authorities are still spending nearly half a billion pounds a year. "While we salute the 218 councils who have cut spending on publicity, the 224 councils who

have increased spending should hang their heads in shame.

"In the middle of a recession, councils need to cut back on propaganda and spin doctors and deliver savings to taxpayers."

A Swale council spokesman defended the spend however.

They told Yourswale: "The figures quoted have been audited and are an accurate record of Swale council's spending on advertising and CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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Crowds flock as the snow falls for Dickens Festival. See web TV site www.yourkenttv.co.uk and search 'Dickens'.

<mark>see our sister papers kent on sunday</mark> AND THE SATURDAY EDITION FOR ALL THE **WEEKEND'S COUNTY NEWS AND SPORT**

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Police are on the lookout for special recruits

BY NICK AMES

A BID to recruit more special constables has been launched by police.

The Mid Kent division is looking for more officers to patrol Faversham in addition to Sittingbourne, the Isle of Sheppey and Maidstone.

Police say they are looking for anyone who has an interest in working with the community to step forward and learn what the job entails. Karen Reeves, who works full-time

in a medical centre in London and also has two children, has been a "special" for four years and highly recommends it.

She said: "I joined initially to see what it was like because I had an idea of taking on a full time career in the police. But now I think it complements my other work well. It is varied, we help at special events such as carnivals and other gatherings, but we are also part of the response teams and so attend incidents."

Ms Reeves said she derives satisfaction from helping people when they are in potentially volatile situation. She said: "The role stretches me in

a way that my nine-to-five job doesn't to be honest. I feel I have a particular affinity when it comes to dealing with victims of domestic abuse, which is an all too common problem.

"You can't be judgmental - everyone has a reason for doing what they do and you need to be able to communicate with them.

"I like to leave an incident feeling that I have made a difference and helped someone who needed assistance. That to me is the satisfaction of the job.

"One thing which is vital for anyone even considering joining is a sense of humour – that can diffuse so many difficult situations and prevent possible problems escalating."
She said the job also gives her an insight into herself: "I'm 40 now and

I think this challenge has been an important part of me finding out more about who I am.

"It has given me confidence in other areas of my life – when it



ON THE JOB: Karen Reeves has full-time employment as well as being a special constable

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comes to confrontations in my day job I feel I can cope very well. Also if I have had a bad day at work I can

put things into perspective.
"There is no way my bad experiences are comparable to what I have

seen other people going through."
For further information go to www.kent.police.uk/jointhespecials.

'We need to ensure Swale residents are better informed'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

publicity. Under the umbrella of advertising and publicity come a variety of legal notices we have to advertise by law, such as job advertisements and

site notices for planning applications.
"We also need to ensure that residents of Swale are better informed about how to access the services that we provide – for example, the launch of

the twin bin scheme.
"Statistics show the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has established Swale council is one of the top ten councils with the largest decrease in waste arisings per head' when based on the previ-ous year, 2007-2008, which is down to residents being better informed.

"We have also an improved, and more frequently published, residents' magazine, Inside Swale, which also keeps Swale residents up to date about

the council's services."

The figures also revealed that Kent County Council spent close to £5.7million on publicity during the same period – representing a drop of £904,000 on the previous year's figure.

Run the Big Apple to help cancer charity

THE Marie Curie cancer charity is looking for volunteers from Swale to run the New York Marathon to raise funds for vital work.
The 26.2 mile challenge takes in the

city's five boroughs, starting on Staten Island through to Brooklyn, Queens, the Bronx and finally into Manhattan with a finish in Central Park

The upfront booking payment for flight and entry is £450 with a £200 deposit and £250 race fee.

Depending on how much a participant raises, Marie Curie will offer a

contribution to the cost of the trip up to a maximum of £1.291.

To participate call the Kent fund-raising office on 01622 688656 or email

Councils join forces to drive efficiencv

SWALE council is to join forces with its SWALL councils to join forces with its Ashford counterpart to provide a property partnership which both local authorities say will increase efficiency. The move is to enable sharing and

developing of expertise and reduce the cost of delivering the service with-

out impacting on the quality.

Savings are calculated to be in the

region of £10,000 a year.

The move is part of a wider project called the Mid Kent Improvement Partnership which could be further increased in the coming years.



Plans to double sites for travelling families

BY NICK AMES

A ROW has erupted after Kent County Council called on the number of sites proposed for gipsies and travellers in the borough to be doubled.

And it could mean Swale gets twice the number of sites it is required to provide under Government policy – and the biggest number in Kent.

Now councillors have attacked the move saying they fear suitable facilities for the travelling community may not be easy to set up.

The latest row follows a statement from min-

The latest row follows a statement from ministers that "new pitch provision be shared more widely between local authorities".

As a result, the South East England Regional Assembly (Seera) – which represents councils and communities across the region – proposed four options. One included Swale providing 20 new nitches

new pitches.

But Kent County Council has responded with another suggestion – that the number be doubled to 40.

The proposals are now being considered by Seera, which has to put one to the Government. The final decision will rest with the Secretary of State and it will not be taken until 2010 at the earliest.

A KCC spokesman said the increase was nec-

A KCC spokesman said the increase was necessary. "To our knowledge there are more than 20 families living on the roadside and in poor quality accommodation in the Swale borough at present," the official said.

But Labour local and county councillor Roger

Truelove attacked the move.

He said: "What KCC is saying is they want to



HARD PITCH: The number of gipsy and traveller sites in Swale could double under contentious county council proposals

have responsibility spread more evenly throughout the South East with the inevitable movement of travellers to areas to which they have not been traditionally associated.
"But within Kent itself they do not want to

"But within Kent itself they do not want to see the same redistribution and insist on having more pitches to 'reflect local need' in Swale. "Under the proposal by KCC, Swale is

"Under the proposal by KCC, Swale is required to have more pitches than anywhere else in Kent.

"We need to look at that – not least so that we can provide the facilities travellers need."

Party colleague and fellow county councillor Angela Harrison echoed his comments. She said: "I have always taken a responsible attitude to finding appropriate authorised sites in Swale, but believe that creating sites in the middle of urban areas, just because there happens to be a spare piece of land, is not the way to go about it."

Different figures under examination by Seera propose between 200 and 320 pitches in total across the county with the figure in place by 2016

Party season leads to drink-drive arrests

WEEKEND partygoers are being blamed for the latest haul of arrests in Mid Kent police's Christmas drink-drive crackdown.

Eleven arrests were made at the weekend for drink driving and police are keen to reiterate the message to revellers that those taking a risk behind the wheel will not be tolerated.

One person from Teynham and one from Faversham face charges relating to the crackdown. There were a total of 13 drink drive related arrests across Swale last week alone.

PC Warren Jarvis said: "There has

PC Warren Jarvis said: "There has been a noticeable trend that the greatest numbers of drink-drivers are being picked up at the weekend, even though our officers have been at dedicated hotspots throughout the week.

"I believe this can be explained by the greater number of people enjoying a festive drink, but even the odd lunchtime pint could affect your ability to drive safely.

"The effects can include slower reactions, poorer judgement of speed and distance and a reduced field of vision.

"Alcohol also tends to make you feel over-confident and more likely to take risks, which increases the danger to all road-users including yourself."



Crunch-busting surgeries to help boost businesses

EFFORTS to help businesses fight back against the economic situation have been unveiled by council chiefs.

Swale council is behind a move to improve co-operation between businesses and important partners, such as Kent Highways and the police, with a series of special surgeries.

Taking place across Swale in the New Year, the Gatefield Hall in Faversham will host its session on February 24 from 8am to 11am.

February 24 from 8am to 11am.

The crunch-busting surgeries will outline assistance available from the likes of Business Link and be actioned by conjunctive and from the control of the surgeries of the surgerie

attended by senior council officers.

Among them will be Cllr John Wright, Swale's portfolio holder for regeneration, along with officers from a range of council services, including planning, business rates, food and health and safety, licensing and regeneration

ing, and regeneration.

Representatives from Kent
County Council Highways will also
be available to speak to, along with
representatives from business
organisations

organisations.

Businesses wishing to attend should email victoriahadfield@swale.gov.uk.

Swale council is also looking to increase the number of businesses willing to be part of a Swale Business Forum, to provide a stronger voice for business on local issues.

Domestic violence crackdown to be police priority

A DEDICATED patrol car will take to the streets over the festive season as part of a police effort to crackdown on domestic violence over the Christmas period.

It will be on call during peak times

It will be on call during peak times to respond to reports of incidents in the home as police step up efforts to nip any problems in the bud.

With the added pressure

With the added pressure Christmas can apply to some households, it is traditionally a time when the number of incidents increase.

Detective Inspector Caroline Nyman, who is co-ordinating the Swale operation in conjunction with other local domestic abuse services said: "Christmas can often be a difficult time for many families, with the extra pressures that the festive season places on all of us and is a peak time for domestic abuse offending.

"It's vital that victims of domestic abuse realise they are not alone. There are many services out there which are able to help, especially over the festive season when situations can get out of hand. "Christmas is well known for a

"Christmas is well known for a significant rise in domestic abuse cases with families spending more time than usual together and the potential of some people drinking to excess.

"Contacting the police is not the only answer though and there are a whole host of services available to people experiencing domestic abuse. I would urge those victims of domestic violence to seek out this help and not to suffer in silence, as not doing so could lead to an escalation of the situation."

Following welfare checks by officers to those at risk of domestic abuse, further offences have been disclosed and a 30-year-old man has been charged with breaching a restraining order was remanded into custody.



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vourswale **NEWS** IN BRIEF

Police call for witnesses following car vandalism

POLICE are hunting a "mindless" vandal who caused £2,000 worth of damage to a car by dousing it in paint stripper.

PCSO Graeme Downes is appealing for a key witness to come forward after paint stripper was poured over a silver Ford Focus parked at the junction of Goodwin Avenue and St Johns Road in Whitstable at around 10.30pm on Tuesday, December 9. The vehicle's tyres were also slashed.
Call PCSO Downes on 07772 226062, or

call CrimeStoppers on 0800 555111.

Duo arrested after going on rampage in city store

TWO disruptive teenagers have been arrested after causing chaos in a shop.

The 13-year-old girl and 17-year-old boy were arrested by a plain clothes detective in Whitefriars at 5.15pm on Thursday after abusing staff, kicking displays and threat-ening to break a window. Detective Inspector Nick Greenan worked

with security staff at Boots and Whitefriars to detain the teenagers before a patrol attended to take them in custody. The girl was reprimanded, while the boy has been bailed pending further enquiries.

Did you have silver bike stolen from car park?

THE owners of two silver mountain bikes have been asked to contact police after two teens were arrested on suspicion of theft.

Canterbury officers are asking people to contact them if their bike was stolen from the Old Tannery area of the city – possibly on December 8. The request comes after police arrested two teenagers on suspicion of theft and discovered the bikes too.

If anyone thinks these bikes may belong to them, contact PC Ashley McMahan on 01227 868262, or email at 11627@ kent.pnn.police.uk.

Science meets religion as course debates clash

THE debate between science and religion

will be discussed through a new course. Starting in January, A Brief Introduction to the Clash Between Science and Religion will provide an overview of issues such as creationism and the laws of nature.

Led by Dr Ken Smith from the University

of Kent, the course will be held at the Adult Education Centre in Canterbury.

The six week course starts on January 21, with sessions from 7pm and 9pm. For more information email G3jix@aol.com.

Green plan withdrawn before red light given

BY **GARETH ARNOLD**

AN application to build a pioneering green holiday village - complete with electric cars - has been withdrawn after council planners recommended it should be thrown

Now the applicants have vowed to redraft and resubmit the application for a site between Whitstable and Herne Bay.

The plans include permission to build seven modular cabins, each with their own electric car, around a central hub with a wind turbine and recycling facilities at Red House Farm, close to Chestfield.

The project is the work of Sittingbournebased architect firm Space Shuffle. Architect Patrick Kennedy-Sanigar said he is disappointed with the report, intended for members of Canterbury's planning committee, claiming

it contained several inaccuracies.

He said: "We were prepared to present the Red House Farm application to the planning committee but when the officer's report became available it included so many inaccuracies we didn't feel we could overcome the recommendation for refusal in our threeminute presentation.

"Basically we would not have had a fair crack of the whip. We withdrew the applica-tion for Red House Farm so we would have time to clarify and correct the inaccuracies before the application is considered by the planning committee.

The main criticism levelled at the proposals concerned its location, which, planners argued, would be contrary to guidelines about



ECO-VILLAGE: Designs for a variety of environmentally-friendly homes have been put forward for Red House Farm

maintaining separation between Herne Bay and Whitstable.

The report reads: "The proposal is for an inappropriate residential development in the

open countryside in an isolated location.

"The site lies in the green gap separating
Herne Bay and Whitstable where the development encroaching onto open countryside would be resisted."

Planners also said although the council wanted to encourage developments providing tourist accommodation, the isolated position and lack of public transport would force too much reliance on private cars. However, Space Shuffle argue that private electric cars, with a range of about 60km, would be provided with each cabin, allowing visitors to come and go as they please having charged up their vehicles with electricity generated by the wind turbine.

Officers also raised questions over the visual impact of the development, although the site is currently occupied by several unauthorised mobile homes which would be removed as part

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Students draw on visitors' experience

ANIMATORS who helped piece new block-buster movie The Tale of Despereaux together returned to Kent to teach university students some tricks of the trade.

Harry Potter stars Emma Watson and Robbie Coltrane were among those who lent their voices to the upcoming Universal Studios Christmas hit, alongside such stars as Matthew Broderick, Christopher Lloyd, Dustin Hoffman and Sigourney Weaver.

But while the Hollywood actors were busy

learning their lines for the mouse-based movie, the real hard work was being carried out at Framestore's animation and post-production base in Soho, London.

Two of the firm's animators – Liam Russell and Elwaleed Sulimann – attended the University of Kent at Canterbury, and returned to work with masters students tackling degrees in computer animation and digital visual effects.

Mr Russell, 24, said: "I think I owe quite a bit

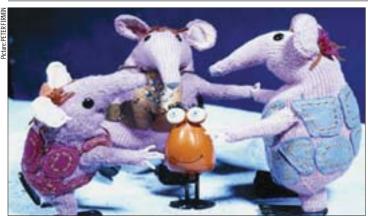
to the university because animation is a very difficult industry to break into.

It's nice for us to be able to give something back now, but it's also important to let the stu-dents know how much work they are in for and what the industry is like at the moment.

See the trailer for the movie on our free broadband TV website www.yourkenttv.co.uk. Search Despereaux'.







INNOCENT FUN: The Clangers, above, and Bagpuss, below are amongst Oliver Postgate's well-loved creations

Thousands are animated by kids TV display

■ BY GARETH ARNOLD

THE Sidney Cooper Gallery has called its recent exhibition featuring work by the late Oliver Postgate "one of the most popular ever".

More than 3,000 visitors have come to pay homage to creations which defined the childhood entertainment of several generations.

Oliver Postgate was the co-creator of

Bagpuss, the legendary children's television series, as well as other favourites The Clangers, Noggin the Nog, Ivor the Engine and The Pogles

The 83-year-old died last week at a nursing home in Broadstairs and is being mourned

as a national hero of children's television. Mr Postgate lived near Peter Firmin, the other creator of the much-loved characters, in Blean, for much of his life. The area has influenced their work in extraordinary ways.

Filming for The Clangers was done in sheds and barns in Blean, the Pogles were filmed in Blean Woods; Bagpuss' shop win-

dow is Peter Firmin's house window and locals were an integral part of the process. Peter Firmin said: "Local farmers and woodsmen and all sorts of people got badgered into taking part in this thing."

Professor David Hayward, head of art at Canterbury Christ Church University, said: "Oliver Postgate's work, along with Peter



Firmin, was loved by generations and did a great deal in the early days of television to raise the profile of children's television.

"The exhibition has provided a wonderful opportunity to re-assess the range of work Oliver and Peter produced. From Ivor the Engine and Noggin the Nog to the Clangers and Bagpuss, their low-budget approach required great visual inventiveness and helped to create a wonderfully humorous interplay between story and image.

Mike Butler, Canterbury Christ Church University's arts manager, said of the exhibition at the gallery on St Peter's Street: "It's been brilliant. We've had about 3,000 visitors in five weeks – it's been one of the most popular shows we've ever had."

The exhibits were part of an exhibition

The exhibits were part of an exhibition called Animate – The Birth of Cartoons for British Television, being held in the gallery by Christ Church University.

Illustrator's historic interests on display

OLIVER Postgate was greatly interested in Canterbury's history. He created a 60ft long illuminated frieze of Thomas the Beckett's life and death, inspired by the Bayeux Tapestry. He also drew the history of Canterbury, from the ice-age to the founding of the University of Kent, including his own Citroen 2CV. Both illustrations are achery in the Museum of

illustrations are on show in the Museum of Canterbury, along with the original Bagpuss.

Watch collaborator Peter Firmin discuss their work on our free broadband TV site www.yourkenttv.co.uk. Simply search Firmin'.

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yourswale **NEWS** IN BRIEF

Manager's faith in good will of city is restored

A COLD hearted criminal stole one of the giant scarves adorning popular milkshake store the Shake Shed last week.

As the thief was spotted committing the crime at the Sun Street outlet in Canterbury, a member of staff gave chase but was unable to catch them.

Director Jenna White said: "I have to say that the action of one selfish individual had left me doubting the Christmas spirit of Canterbury."

But three days later there was a surprise in

store.

Ms White said: "My faith in the city was restored on Tuesday when a resident, Hazel Eaves, popped into our shop to ask whether we had mislaid one of our scarves."

Mrs Eaves had found the scarf thrown in the hedgerow along the river walk when

walking her dog.

The shop's Ms White said: "I just thought this was such a lovely action and proved the majority of people who live in and around Canterbury are really kind hearted."

Couple stole money from man walking on footpath

A MAN'S wallet was pinched during a day-light crime in Canterbury last week, and now police are appealing for witnesses.

The 25-year-old's wallet was taken by a

couple on the footpath between Northgate and Military Road at 11am on Monday, December 8. The woman asked the victim for a light for her cigarette. The man she was with then demanded money.

The woman was 5ft 8ins, in her late 20s with heavy make-up. She has dark, scruffy, shoulder-length hair and was wearing a black, duffel-type long jacket and blue trousers. The man is 5ft 10ins with short ginger hair brushed forwards.

MP warns of difficulties for elderly due to cuts

HERNE Bay MP Roger Gale has raised concerns at the impact falling interest rates and the tumbling value of the pound is having on

older people.

He said: "The cut in interest rates might be good for those with borrowings, if the banks would pass on the reductions. But it is not good for those very many more people who have led prudent and thrifty lives, invested for their retirement and now find themselves

in receipt of dramatically reduced incomes. "Bills that particularly hit the elderly – fuel and food costs - have risen at the same time that real retirement incomes have fallen."





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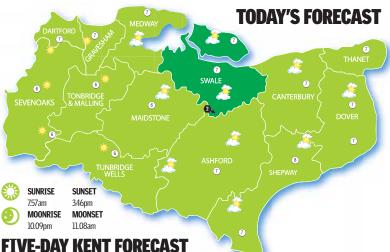
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WEELEND



10°C 10°C

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	HIGH	TIDES	5
Chatham	Saturday	5:00pm	

Chatham	Saturday	5:00pm	5.8m
	Sunday	5:55pm	5.5m
Dover	Saturday	3:16pm	6.0m
	Sunday	4:12pm	5.8m
Dungeness	Saturday	3:02pm	6.9m
	Sunday	4:01pm	6.5m
Ramsgate	Saturday	3:46pm	4.6m
	Sunday	4:42pm	4.4m
Sheerness	Saturday	4:49pm	5.5m
	Sunday	5:44pm	5.3m
Whitstable	Saturday	4:58pm	5.1m
	Sunday	5:50pm	4.9m

AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	4°C	Madrid	7°C
Athens	17°C	New York	5°C
Barcelona	7°C	Paris	3°C
Beijing	7°C	Rome	15°C
Bombay	33°C	Sydney	20°C
Cape Town	26°C	Tenerife	21°C
Cardiff	5°C	Tokyo	9°C
Gibraltar	9°C	Vancouver	-1°C
Hong Kong	18°C	Warsaw	-1°C
Las Palmas	16°C	Wellington	17°C

yourswale NEWS IN BRIEF

Flushed with success of loo of the year awards

THE cleanliness of public toilets in Swale was officially recognised at the Loo of the Year Awards 2008 ceremony.

Four conveniences across Swale were awarded a four-star certificate.

The toilets recognised were in Grove Avenue, Leysdown, Rose Street, Sheerness, Central Car Park, Faversham and the Central Car Park, Sittingbourne. Additionally, a certificate was given to Swale council to give to the attendant of each convenience.

The annual national competition recognises the appearance of public convenience both on the inside and the outside. It also assesses the cleanliness of the toilets and, in the case of the conveniences in Leysdown, looks at specific requirements such as the facilities offered for those who are visiting the beach.

Anne Ryman, Swale council's environmental projects officer, said: "We are delighted the four toilets we entered into the competition were all given awards."

Workers got on with job while hotel burned

STAFF at a hotel and restaurant were not aware their building was on fire until customers told them flames were coming out of the chimney.

The blaze broke out at Hempstead House in London Road, Bapchild, at about 5.30pm last Wednesday.

A single fire engine from Sittingbourne went to the hotel and had the fire under control within half an hour. The building was not evacuated.





CALL

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Fri

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7°C | 11°C | 10°C | 12°C

6°C

6°C

5°C | 7°C | 10°C | 9°C | 10°C

6°C | 7°C | 11°C

4°C | 6°C

6°C | 6°C

Maidstone

Ramsgate

Rochester

Sevenoaks

Tonbridge

Tun Wells

Sittingbourne 6°C

Canterbury

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Sun

11°C | 10°C | 12°C

10°C

10°C

10°C | 9°C

6°C | 11°C | 9°C | 10°C

11°C

| 11°C | 9°C

11°C



yourlocalinterview

QUESTION & ANSWER

RICHARD KNOX-JOHNSTON



How do you see your new role and what has been done previously that you can build on?

CPRE has seen major development over the last five years under former chairman Gary Thomas.

We are now in a very strong position with respect to the planning system. I see my new role, in the main, to facilitate our fantastic sub-committees and executive committee members to continue to provide ideas and policies for the future of Kent.

I also want to build and expand our membership base, particularly to younger people.

QYou must be very honoured to have such a role in protecting the most important natural assets we have?

Yes, I feel extremely privileged to have been elected chairman for what is considered to be one of the strongest branches of the CPRE in the country.

We have a very dedicated team of staff,

We have a very dedicated team of staff, members and supporters who bring a variety of expertise to our charity, but we always need fresh ideas from new people who want to get involved in the work we do at CPRE Kent.

What are your immediate plans and how are you going to get across the role of the organisation?

A It was decided a long time ago that the name CPRE does not effectively describe

what we do and is not well known to Kent

We have created a new brand which we are looking forward to launching in the spring of next year.

This will better encompass what we do at CPRE Kent and support my view that we are responsible for the whole of Kent – not just the rural areas

How do you feel the county's natural environment rates as opposed to the rest of the UK? And what is the most important thing CPRE can do to maintain it?

A Kent is known as the Garden of England but is under constant threat as we risk becoming a thoroughfare between the rest of the country and the EU.

We need to keep a careful eye on this situation and CPRE Kent is doing everything we can to protect our county and our valuable greenbelt land.

What are the most important issues in Kent and nationwide that are affecting the countryside and its management?

Climate change and its effects is one of the biggest issues facing Kent now and in the future. CPRE Kent is holding an alternative energy conference event in January to promote the different methods of alternative energy people can use in their homes. Also, we

are determined to dedicate ourselves to preserving rural and recreational areas for all who live in Kent.

Now can these issues be tackled best?

A CPRE Kent has always urged the Government and councils to consider the implications of their decisions and the effect they may have on the whole of Kent.

With the help of our members we will contin-

With the help of our members we will continue to protect Kent.

Mhat is your favourite part of the Kent landscape?

There is no part of Kent which I favour in particular.

What amazes me is that throughout Kent there are so many beautiful scenes which can be enjoyed by people whether they live in the towns or the countryside.

Our county has so much to offer we need to protect it before it's too late.

• If you would like to get involved and support the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England, you can contact the Kent branch on 01303 815180, e-mail info@cprekent.org.uk, or write to CPRE Kent, 24 Evegate Park Barn, Station Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 65X.

Alternatively, for more information take a look at its website at www.cprekent.org.uk.

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The new chairman of the Kent branch of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) discusses with **Nick Ames** the role played in protecting our forests, woodland, coastline and marshes.

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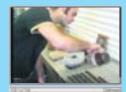
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Oliver Postgate's colleague talks about the creator who passed away last week. Search 'bagpuss'



Take a ride on Chatham's Cresta, music is by Queens Of The Stone Age. Search



Detective Inspector Jon Holl raising awareness of domestic violence at Christmas, Search 'domestic'



Our top five tips for stressfree Christmas shopp from Anna White at Bluewater, Search 'stress

EDITOR'S CHOICE

You can view all these videos and others from around the county with the click of a mouse at...

yourkenttv.co.uk

You won't be hearing a squeak out the kids

BY **ELLIOT WRIGHT**. AGED 11

Comic Joe Pasquale is a hit in Peter Pan at The Orchard

COMIC Joe Pasquale as Smee in this year's pantomime is brilliant. A funny guy who lights up the show but doesn't dominate his fellow performers.

I'm a bit of an expert with these pantos. My dad's job means I've been dragged along to at least two partos every single year for ages. I like

'em. Oh yes I do.

Disappointments in recent years have included Jim Davidson in Dick Whittington at Dartford a couple of years ago. I did think he'd

lost the point a little that pantos are for kids too. Anyway on with the big night: Peter Pan starring Mr Pasquale as Mr Smee.

A cool bit was that Wendy's mum, Mrs

A cool bit was that wendy's mum, Mrs Darling, is played by Andrée Bernard. She was Nervous Nerys in The Only Fools and Horses episode where Rodney gets chased in the three-wheel van by the blokes in the big American car Nerys ended up crying in the passenger seat. So, she's pretty famous as far as I'm concerned.

I think she was the Magic Mermaid in this panto too but it didn't say that in the pro-

I, like most kids, know Joe Pasquale because he won ITV's I'm a Celebrity in 2004. But my dad says he's been around for 30 years and reckons he is a funny bloke.

I'm also sure he did The Price is Right on telly but my dad said I was thinking of Leslie Crowther – my dad's quite old though.

Anyway, Peter Pan. It is a good show. You won't know any of the songs but they do help tell

the story and they were quite good. The dancing was all right as well.

Peter Pan is played by a girl called Daniella Gibb.

My dad's told me it's panto tradition for girls to play the lead man, but it's one that has been missing from a lot of the productions in recent years. She played the role in a traditional, hand-on-hips style which seemed right and worked well... though she did fly a bit like Superman sometimes.

The acrobatic team of men, who also made up the pirates were really good and the bit they did with the gym horse was funny. Even though he obviously can't do a triple flip, Joe

joined in and added to the laughter.

And then there was the baddie Captain Hook, played by Alex Giannini. I think he probably could have been even nastier to the kids in the audience. They like that.

I remember John Altman (my dad said he played Nick Cotton in Eastenders) at The Marlowe a couple of years ago where he was the baddie. He used to come on and say I hate kids' and scowl and everyone booed and hissed him like mad. He was my best panto villain but Alex is my second best. I reckon he'll get nastier as he does more per-

Peter Pan is a story everyone knows, so I won't bore you. But the sets were excellent and atmospheric moving from London to the island with Peter's hideout and the pirate

Look out for Nana the Darling family's dog cocking her leg as she goes out of the bedroom and when she drags her bottom across the

Joe directed this pantomime too and all in all Dartford is worth the price of a ticket this

 Peter Pan runs at The Orchard Theatre in Dartford until Sunday January 11. For tickets call the box office on 01322 220000 or visit www.orchardthe-



HOOKED: Alex Giannini as Captain Hook and, right, Joe Pasquale as Smee in Peter Pan at The Orchard Theatre



CHARITY: Donate your unwanted computers

Helping kids in Africa is PC

A CHARITY wants families buying new computers this Christmas to donate their unwanted laptops and PCs to schoolchildren in Africa

Africa has the lowest ratio of computers to people in the world and most residents and organisations, even schools, cannot afford them – meaning only the wealthy have access to IT equipment and training. Computers 4 Africa, based in Maidstone,

has been running appeals for used PCs, lap-tops and other IT equipment across the UK since 2006 and has shipped around 3,400 items to schools and community projects in

Benefit

Avril Mhundura, a spokesman for the charity who is originally from Zimbabwe, said if people in Kent were thinking of buying replacement computers for their families this Christmas their unwanted equip-ment would be of great benefit to schools

and families in Africa.
"There are so many upgrades and new technology being developed and becoming available all the time in the UK," he said.

"Sometimes people change their equip-ment every two years but the systems will still be good enough to be used in Africa."

The charity ships the donated computers to a training college in Dar es Salaam, the commercial capital of Tanzania.

Students use them as a learning resource

- checking they are still working after shipping and installing operating systems before they are re-distributed to schools.

· Our readers can donate their computers by dropping them off at the charity's Maidstone headquarters, or it there are more than five items a pick-up service is offered. For more information visit

www.computers4africa.org.uk or call 0845 200 8510.







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County review in wake of Baby P

CHILD protection procedures are being reviewed by Kent County Council in the wake of the tragic death of Baby P.

The case of the 17month-old Haringey
tot shocked the nation
and brought demands
for better protection of
youngsters. Cllr
Leyland Ridings, KCC
cabinet member for
children, families and
education standards,
said: "Managing risk is
the most difficult area



TRAGIC: Baby P

in social work, particularly for vulnerable children. Kent has a tradition of having a committed and highly competent workforce, but the challenges are unremitting. Members and senior officers are mindful of the duties and responsibilities of children's services and the need to make sure these are continually reviewed and have the right resources.

"We have a team of social work professionals dedicated to the welfare and wellbeing of children and young people, alongside partners from other agencies. We are also committed to investing additional resources into child protection. We owe it to every child in Kent to do so, and also to our staff whose profession is under intense scrutiny."

The review has cross-party support. Labour group leader Cllr Mike Eddy said: "We are all thinking along the same lines. There is no room for complacency where vulnerable children are concerned".

vulnerable children are concerned".

KCC chief executive Peter Gilroy is carrying out a review of safeguarding procedures and will report early next year.

and will report early next year.

Two men were found guilty of causing or allowing the death of Baby P, and the 27-year-old mother of the boy pleaded guilty to causing or allowing his death.

Near the A2/M25 Junction 2

Police bid for share of £8m stun gun funding

BY JENNA PUDELEK

TASER stun guns could become a common sight on the county's streets if a Kent Police bid for Government funding is successful.

Chief Constable Michael Fuller said the force would be making a case to the Home Office for a share of the £8 million funding that has been made available to increase the use of the weapons across the country.

Tasers are already in use on the streets of Kent but only by 80 specially trained firearms officers since they were introduced in October, 2007.

"In the vast majority of cases Tasers have not been fired because pointing the red dart at someone's chest has been enough to deter them from carrying out a violent attack on officers or the public," Mr Fuller told a meeting of the Kent Police Authority (KPA).

"Their use has been very successful. They are an important tool and prevent a higher amount of injury than would occur if officers used other weapons available to them."

used other weapons available to them."

The force will apply for the funding before the end of December. The move comes despite a request from the KPA for a debate about the wider use of Tasers and firearms, which will not take place until February.

Mr Fuller was keen to increase the number of Tasers available in Kent after Jacqui Smith, the Home Secretary, announced last month that 10,000 of the weapons would





TAKEN DOWN: A Kent Police firearms officer demonstrates taking down a suspect with a 50,000-volt Taser stun gun

be made available nationally after a successful pilot programme. Statistics from the national trial show that in 75 per cent of cases the weapon was drawn but not fired.

In Kent, police have never stunned anyone with the weapon. Between January 1 and August 31, this year, Tasers were drawn – but not fired – 13 times, the county force's statistics show.

However, in response to Ms Smith's announcement, the Metropolitan Police Authority said it would not immediately take up the offer because it has the "potential to cause fear and damage public confidence" in the police.

because it has the "potential to cause fear and damage public confidence" in the police.

Mark Gilmartin, chief executive of the KPA, said after the meeting: "If there is a chance of extra Home Office funding, I understand why the Chief Constable would not want to miss the deadline for bidding, because if we miss it we will have to fund it ourselves.

"Unfortunately, the authority will not meet again until February for a proper debate on the wider use of Tasers."

Tasers, which are shaped like handguns and cost about £750, fire barbed darts charged with 50,000 volts to stun an attacker.
The weapons are already widely used by

The weapons are already widely used by police forces in North America.

Amnesty International submitted a report to the US Justice Department last year raising concerns about the safety of using of electroshock weapons in law enforcement and the potential for abuse. The human rights organisation investigated more than 290 deaths, 15 of which were in Canada, following jolts from police Tasers since 2001.

A Kent Police spokeswoman said officers armed with Taser guns can only be deployed with the approval of an Assistant Chief Constable or the Chief Constable.

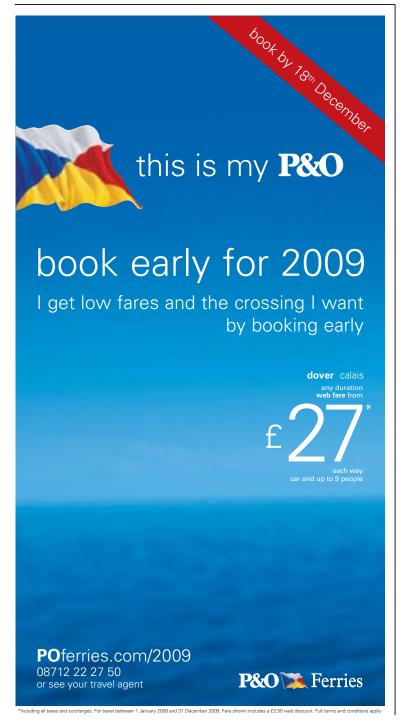
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yourswaleschools

Communities cashing in on climate change



BY NICK AMES

FOUR districts which are taking action to reduce carbon emissions have scooped a share of Kent County Council's £10,000 Low Carbon Challenge Fund.

The villages and their schools are being rewarded for ideas including a doorstep campaign to encourage energy-saving in the home and a Grow Local initiative to decrease food miles

The cash awards were announced as KCC published two bumper documents online to help even more communities and schools across Kent go for low carbon. This is part of KCC's action on climate change.

CC's action on climate change.

The 90-page communities toolkit and schools climate change action pack was launched at Eastchurch Primary School on Warren Road, a flagship eco-school on the Isle of Sheppey.

Other communities which have pioneered

Other communities which have pioneered low carbon are Elham, near Folkestone, Hadlow, near Tonbridge, and St Margaret'sat-Cliffe, near Dover.

at-Cliffe, near Dover.
Eastchurch is going to put its share towards providing low-energy street lights, while St Margaret's is looking again at the feasibility of using renewables.

KCC environment, highways and waste

member Keith Ferrin said: "I know there are many communities and schools in Kent that want to take action to reduce their carbon footprint.

"The pilot project has produced the most comprehensive and practical guides to setting up a low-carbon community. I would encourage others to follow their excellent example."

The county's education chief Leyland Ridings added: "Children are good at grasping the importance of taking action to improve their environment. The schools action pack will help them learn how to create a better place to live and work."

Children at Eastchurch have thoroughly taken to the idea, according to their teachers.

The low-carbon communities project was developed with the non-profit Kent Energy Centre. The centre's county co-ordinator Mike Bundy said: "It is refreshing to work with communities that have a real understanding of the urgency to reduce carbon emissions and save energy.

"In the short term energy costs will fluctuate up and down but in the medium to longer term the cost of energy will invariably increase as availability of supply reduces.

"If we can start now to both save energy and develop the market for alternatives to fossil fuels we have an opportunity to both make existing supplies last longer and protect the environment from the damaging affects of climate change."



ECO SCHOOL: Eastchurch Primary School on the Isle of Sheppey accept their Low Carbon Challenge Fund

BREAK TIME

Charity benefits from sleepless night

THE annual Fulston Manor Sixth Form Stayawake raised a total of £2751.87 for helping leprosy sufferers.

Senior pupils at the Sittingbourne school stayed awake from 7pm to 7am to raise funds for LEPRA, a charity dedicated to helping cure leprosy.

By students raising £21 they can save the life of a leprosy victim by giving them back their health, their self-esteem and the ability to live once again among their families and communities.

This record-breaking sum will have made life-saving changes to 131 sufferers.

Right at the art of birthday celebrations

A GALLERY run by students at Sittingbourne Community College celebrates its fourth birthday this month.

Recent visits to the Ricky White Gallery include local photographer and sculptor Daniel Nash, international artist Jessika Worrall and Swale Arts Forum former prize-winners

College headteacher Alan Barham said: "The students' vision of a professional space to show their work has gone on to

inspire future art and design students to produce equally creative and exciting ideas of what it means to be an artist, a student and a member of a community.

"Working so closely with professional artists really enhances the learning across the art and design curriculum and gives students a taste of what is to come.

"It broadens their minds and their creativity and also aides in the development of their social and business skills."

SEND your schools news and pictures to yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk. You can also upload your own video clips of schools events on to www.yourkenttv.co.uk

yourswaleblogger

Each week we get a mystery writer to air their views on living in Swale...

And now Oliver is asleep his loveable puss lives on

THE death of Oliver Postgate last week was probably a mere blip on the radar of those who have yet to stagger past the 30-year milestone of life thus far.

His name will have carried little weight.

Merely the man behind Bagpuss – a character on keyrings and mugs in those big card shops. Yet Oliver Postgate – along with Peter Firmin – conjures up not just memorable characters for those of us of a certain age, but of our highly all that Of a stress which the conjures of the stress of the str childhood itself. Of a time when there were only three TV channels. Of a time before 24-

hour kids' programming.

A BBC children's schedule which would kick-off with something for the toddlers and wrap-up with either Blue Peter or Grange Hill by 5.30pm. A time when the height of cartoon sophistication was Roobarb; a show which had enough charm to make its theme music still instantly recognisable all these years later.

A time before Philip Schofield and his broom

Rainbow became a walking wrinkle, when John Noakes was the action man you aspired to be, and Neighbours was less than a glint in the eye of an Australian TV executive.

What Postgate and Firmin brought to our

screens was not only wholesome, family-friendly entertainment, it was funny, nonpatronising, and as endearing to the parents

as it was the children.

I defy anyone to sit before an hour of children's TV today and not be repelled by the constant noise, colours and just plain silliness which assaults your senses.

I read, in the days following his death, of

Peter Firmin explaining they wrote scripts for their shows for themselves – and not for children. He described it as 'selfish'. It was anything but. What they brought was a magic which enriched our young lives - and now enriches the lives of our children who find themselves handed DVDs of their shows and told to watch on the grounds I used to enjoy this when I was your age'.

Take Ivor the Engine. Immediately I want to impersonate the shur-ti-pug noise the wheels would make. Or, indeed, make a rather poor attempt at the gentle Welsh accent it featured. Sophisticated illustration it was not. Yet the stories and lightness of touch were a joy to

But, of course, it is Bagpuss who is their best-loved and remembered creation.

So many words have been written about the saggy old cloth cat, I will not repeat them here. But I am sure I cannot have been the only one to still find a special pleasure in watching the mouse and their chocolate biscuit machine an invention that when you are five appears to be the greatest thing in the world.

Oliver Postgate and Peter Firmin's workshop in Kent delivered the TV equivalent on a chocolate biscuit. And all these years on their output is as tasty as ever. RIP Oliver.

• EDITOR'S NOTE: All blogs are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance

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If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the editor, Chris Britcher, on 01303 817171 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Swale blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to

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Write to The Editor, Yourswale, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

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Eastern and Coastal Kent



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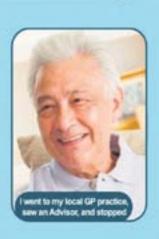
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We went after work to our local Community Centre and stopped smoking



yourcompetition

a VIP family trip around Port Lympne



THE Aspinall Foundation, in conjunction with KOS Media are offering one lucky family a VIP trip around Port Lympne Wild Animal Park.

This will include free entry to the park and a trip in a bespoke safari vehicle around the African Experience where over 300 animals roam in a 100 acre site overlooking breathtaking acre site overlooking breathtaking views of the Channel towards France. Later, the lucky winners can explore the 600 acre park discovering animals such as lions, tigers, snow and clouded leopards, red pandas, numerous species of monkey, black rhino and elephants as well as the famous collection of western levelond cavilles. lowland gorillas.

There are two ways to enter the competition and the first ensures, with little effort on your part, you are able to regularly help raise funds to save a variety of endangered species.

All you have to do is sign up for a free Aspinall prepaid Maestro card provided in conjunction with Mastercard and

in conjunction with Mastercard and M-cube. Normally the prepaid card costs £9.99, but in conjunction with this competition it won't cost you a penny. The card can be used like a debit card but is topped up like a mobile phone and 100 per cent of the profits associated with using it are given back to the Aspinall Foundation.



By using your card, you will help to support the Foundation's African Projects in the Congo and Gabon as well as our work in the UK and other parts of the world. The prepaid card can be used to shop securely online, spend while on holiday, manage business expenses and cash flow, help children budget their pocket money or just use it for all of your daily spending – both in the UK and abroad! Every transaction will help the conservation and breeding programmes at Port Lympne and Howletts Wild Animal Parks.

The card is absolutely free, no credit check is required and it is quick, easy and secure to apply on line. The card is a safe alternative to carrying cash and is accepted worldwide.

accepted worldwide.

The account can be managed online with instant top up via the Post Office

available too. The card is totally safe for available (b). The card is totally sale for all online transactions and protects you from identity fraud. It also gives you a load of discounts on High Street products including a 10 per cent discount in Howletts and Port Lympne cafes and gift shops.

To enter the competition and obtain

this card just visit www.saving gorillas.com and insert "KOS" when asked where you heard about the card. In the drop down box below insert "KOS". On receipt of the card you can top it up online and take advantage of the rewards on offer. It can be used any-

the rewards on offer. It can be used any-where you see the Maestro or MasterCard logo worldwide.

However, if you don't want to sign up for the card you can also still enter the competition by sending a postcard with the heading "ASPINALL PREPAID CARD – KOS" with your name, e-mail address (if applicable), address, and day-time telephone number to Marketing Department (KOS comp), Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, Lympne, Near Hythe, Kent, CT21 4PD. The closing date is January 5th, 2009.

For more information about Howletts, Port Lympne and the Aspinall

Port Lympne and the Aspinall Foundation see www.totallywild.net.

FOUNDATION See WWW.IOTAIJWVIII.A.TW No purchase necessary. For our full terms and conditions see www.kentnews.co.uk or call 01303 817073. If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry. The VIP trip around Port Lympne is for a family of up to two adults and three children.

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Christmas? Rock and roll on the new year

BY SIMON ROBINSON

FORGET Christmas, a new year is almost upon us, and with it come some shiny new promotional programmes from the county's top

Each polished booklet is jam-packed with page upon page of bright pictures, attention-grabbing headlines and reams of brilliant – literally the best thing since sliced bread' endorsements.

I'm a sucker for a snazzy picture and an over-the-top blurb. They draw me like a moth to a

See if you can resist the tempting bands and artists coming to Kent in the next few months.

If not, I'll see you there.

• Blues Brothers Party, The Churchill, Bromley, from Tuesday to Saturday, January

This performance carries a slightly ominous health and safety message: "Warning, you'll party like you've never partied before."

party like you've never partied before.

The theatre's snazzy synopsis states: "From tender ballads to rip-roaring party pieces, the Blues Brothers Party has it all. Completing the line-up are the Sensational Sisters of Soul four sexy and sassy backing singers – who raise both the tempo and the temperature.

"This show, currently taking UK audiences by storm, will be the musical party of the year featuring classic rhythm and blues hits made famous by Dan Aykroyd and John Belushi including Soul Man, Everybody Needs Somebody To Love, Mustang Sally, Jailhouse Rock, Respect and many more."



BLUES FOR YOU: Party time with Jake Flwood and their musical chums at the Churchill Theatre, Bromley

Letz Zep, Orchard Theatre, Dartford, on

• Letz Zep, Orchard Ineatre, Dartiord, on Thursday January 29, at 7.45pm.
Zeppelin frontman Robert Plant has given his backing to this cover band, stating: "I walked in – I saw me. Awesome."
The Orchard promises classic stadium rock:

"From Stairway to Heaven and Rock and Roll, to the gentle Going to California and the haunting Kashmir, Letz Zep portray the entire scope of the



FOUR POOFS: Wossy's house band will appear at the Hazlitt Theatre in Maidstone as part of a national tour

music of Led Zeppelin, who remain the most influential and iconic rock band of all time."

• Four Poofs And A Piano, Hazlitt Theatre, Maidstone, on Saturday, January 31, at 8pm.

Sir Elton John is apparently a big fan of the camp quartet, saying: "There could be five poofs and two pianos soon."

The theatre says the Friday Night With Jonathan Ross house band's performance is one not to miss.

The programme states: "In this, their first national tour, the boys are promising an eclectic mix of song and dance, from jaunty reworkings of classic covers to their own comic observations of life in the Noughties.

For more information, you can visit www. churchilltheatre.co.uk, www. orchardtheatre. co.uk and www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk

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ALT ROCK: Medway band UpCDownC on our web TV channel The Ether



LATER: See Jools Holland and his big band live on yourkentty.co.uk



Top five Kent gigs

1. Swap Meet - January 20, Cherry Tree, Canterbury

2. Kayley Weller – January 22, Hole In

The Roof, Deal 3. Sizen - January 29, Beercart Arms,

Canterbury 4. Shelta - January 31, Water Rats, London

5. Backburner - February 7, Park Inn,





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EMAIL: Email your letters to yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk

TALK TIME

GHLTN WHELAN

The councillor. who is one of Swale's planners, has a very unusual first name. He took the time to talk to Yourswale about the unusual tale behind it.



So where does your name come from?It's a suburb of the town of Mons in Belgium and my father's father was in the British Expeditionary Force at the start of the First World War.

In 1914 he took part in the Retreat from Mons as the Germans pressed on before they were halted and the trench war began.

Whether he had a girlfriend there, lost some of his comrades, or something else, I just don't know. But he gave my father that name and it was then passed on through the family to me.

Is there anyone you've met with the same name? As far as I know I'm the only one in the UK.

Have you ever been to the place?

Yes and it's a real dump. It's a really run down place. like some of the worst industrial sites I have ever

There are derelict factories, abandoned railways, even the church has its pews outside the door for

It is really a very uninspiring place – and I say that as someone who is named after it. Maybe it was better in my grandfather's day.

So you wouldn't advise anyone with an interest in the First World War to visit?

YOUR LETTERS

Petition signed to call for fair election

It is unfortunate that just a few months after being elected to the town council for Davington Priory ward, Cllr David Barker has resigned for health reasons. I am sure everyone wishes him

Although Mr Barker has not been able to attend council and community meetings, Labour's representatives in the ward, Brenda Chester and Anni Bales have continued to work on behalf of all residents, on individual concerns, such as housing, parking and anti-social behaviour.

They have also followed up on problems with highways and litter bin collection.

These are not party political issues, but they matter to the everyday lives of people, and what they wish to see councillors taking up with the various authorities for them.

We understand the vacancy caused by Cllr Barker's resignation would be filled by the town council co-opting someone, unless a petition requesting an election is signed by ten or more electors of Davington Priory

ward. We believe critical scrutiny of the Tory-controlled Faversham town council is essential to ensure local people have a real voice in the town.

So we have prepared such a

petition.
We have already received ten

signatures. We look forward to a democratic election to determine who will represent the people of Davington Priory.

Trevor Payne Chair, Faversham Branch Labour Party

yourswale.co.uk

COMMENT ONLINE

NOT only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too.

Beneath most stories on the www.yourswale.co.uk website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online

To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think. And remember, www.yourswale.co.uk is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across Faversham, Sittingbourne, Sheerness and all the villages in Swale.

We will include the best on these pages too - ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience. In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yourswale before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out.

On www.yourswale.co.uk you can access, for free, the full newspaper in our highly-acclaimed e-editions.

Excellent display brightens us all up

I would like to congratulate Faversham on its Christmas lights which are head and shoulders above any in other town in Kent.

They town has really made an effort and this is all the better at a time when money is obviously not as free as it has been in

recent years.
Every little bit helps to cheer people up and the lights certainly manage to do that.

Faversham

Visitors need signs to find car parking

As a recent visitor to Faversham I would like to comment on how difficult I found it was to park.

I eventually did find a space in the central car park but found

getting to it very difficult.

It is tucked away from the town centre and without a good degree of local knowledge it seemed to me it was not easily accessible. What signs I did see appeared to make no sense and I couldn't work out which was the right route.

Eventually I was forced to stop and ask someone – and they were very helpful. But surely clearer signing would help people make the best of the town?

Trevor Stanton

Town needs more information points

The information guide which greets visitors to Faversham at the railway station is excellent but why are there not more of

Visitors who don't arrive by train obviously don't see it maybe the town could think of putting up other copies at various locations in the town centre and other obvious points such as the quayside, outside the Guildhall and close to the Shepherd Neame brewery

Andy Alexander

Basic learning is more important

The latest news that primary school teaching is to be less about



traditional subjects and more about themed learning is another victory for the politically correct brigade

for the politically correct brigade. Why don't these so called experts realise the priority when it comes to education is reading, writing and being able to do sums?

If children want to learn about other parts of life they should of course be encouraged to do so.

But not at the expense of the basics which are necessary throughout life to get a proper job and have a reasonable time of it.

Paul Benneti By emai

Council bank seems doomed to failure

The news Kent County Council is contemplating setting up a bank with other authorities fills me with alarm

This is the organisation which backed the no-hoper airline out of Manston, set up a TV station which



nobody
watches
and finally
invested
some of its
funds into
an Icelandic
bank which
crashed.
A record
which does

not fill anyone with confidence leave money

so I would suggest they leave money arrangements to those who know what they are doing. But who that actually is in the current climate of failed businesses, useless banks and

disgraced brokers I'm not quite sure.

Barry Flanagan

Fuel prices should be dropped for fairness

Can I suggest a good Christmas present for everyone who has a

Suppliers of gas and electricity and other fuels should cut their prices in line with the drop in costs in obtaining suppliers they have incurred in recent months.

Gas – for instance – is currently being purchased by energy companies at just half the price they charge. That is not just wrong – it's greedy and they should do something about it.

James Rose By email



Countryside walk is truly remarkable

The walk you featured last week is a true gem and one which I take advantage of a few times a year at least.

It is one of the most remarkable in the county – not least for how the landscape changes from gentle countryside to marshland finally to the bleak shore.

Then there is the added attraction of the Shipwright's Arms — definitely some of the best beer to be had anywhere in Kent.

Dave Coburn Faversham



Gills need support for TV moment

I would like to say to all fans of Kent's number one football team – now is the time to get behind the Gills

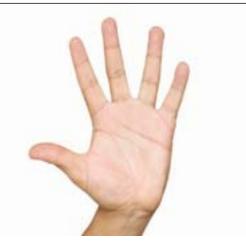
Not since a series of encounters with Chelsea has the team got a chance to shine in the national spotlight like it has when the mighty Aston Villa come to town.

And none of those matches were live on national TV.

This is a chance to show the nation that the team, the fans and the town are not part of a football backwater and the game is alive and well in north Kent

Gillian Jakes, by email.





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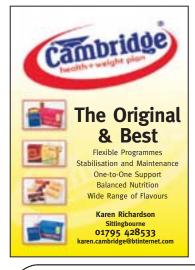
Pink Days on the 23rd, 24th, & 25oct 'Help us raise money for breast cancer' Come in for a FREE consultation, where you'll be treated to a refreshing Pink Dinik * Donations being taken

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■ Fcorium

THIS natural skincare emporium is the perfect place to find beautiful skincare gifts and stocking fillers

With brands like Jo Wood Organics, REN, John Masters Organics and Ruby Red Cosmetics, it won't be hard to pick up something really special.

Recently available in-store are the Jo Wood Organics EDT fragrances, retailing at £36

Exclusive to Ecorium, these are one of the first perfumes to be certified as organic.

Complemented by a full range of bodycare as well as candles, the Amka and Usiku scents are like nothing you will have come across before.

We also have gift sets to suit every pocket and can make up sets from products of your choice.

If you're looking for something on a budget, our range of fabulous stocking-fillers starting at only £2.99 are a great way of giving a natural skincare treat without breaking the bank.

ing the bank.

Whether you're looking for candles,
make-up, skincare, haircare, nail varnish or
perfume, come and see us at Ecorium in
Palace Street. Canterbury.

Palace Street, Canterbury. We've got a natural Christmas all wrapped up!



TOP TIPS

BTF

Book early for party appointments and visit your salon to solve all those special gift worries. Always remember to use quality products on your hair, especially at this time of year when you may be having elaborate party styles that are not kind to your hair.

Ecorium

Keep a small pot of balm in your handbag to use as the weather gets cold. Ecorium stocks balms that work as lip salves, hand creams, hair smoothers and general allround SOS winter remedies for any dry, chapped skin.

Months When you

Swallows

It's easy to climb on the scales every day. However, the number doesn't provide the information you really need to assess your progress. Body composition analysis will give you a more accurate reading of whether your programme is working.



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ourkentdating





WOMEN seeking men I LOVE FOOTBALL Fun to be with blonde female, 25,

5ft2, loves football(!), going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man to be my soulmate. Box 446494

TAKE ME OUT
Single mum, 32, cuddly larger lady,
5ft8, dark brown hair, seeking some
one to have fun, a dance, some
drinks, meals and more with. Box HORSES FOR COURSES...

HORSES FOR COURSES...
Caring, loving, affectionate female,
30, 52°, thorde, likes waking, horse
riding, animals, seeks affectionate
male, 30–40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013 °Q
CANTERBURY TALE
Single mum of 2, 32, WLTM someone kind, caring and considerate, for
nights in/out and clinema. Ryan from
Whistable, please call again, leave
contact details! Box 406670 °Q

DON'T PASS ME BY
Cute, single mum of 4, 38yrs old,
Kent based, into most things, looking
for friendship or possibly romance.
Box 897983 •

FROM ME TO YOU

Tall leggy brunette, 38, recently bereaved, enjoy meals out or nights in, dry white wine, a good movie & cuddles, seeking a male for compan-ionship. Box 887404

YOUNG-AT-HEART

YOUNG-AT-HEART
Attractive 38yr old female, dark
brown hair, blue eyes, curvy
physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks
loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893

O

905614 • • • ANIMAL LOVER?

ANIMAL LOVER?

Nurse, 37yrs, 2 kids, 5fl8, blonde hair, blue eyes, likes the gym, cooking, swimming, salsa dancing, looking for a kind, caring, loyal male Box 431557 • • ENTHIESAS** ENTHUSIASM ENCOURAGED!

Lovely pretty big-busted lady, 39, medium build, 5ft5, lots of energy! likes the gym, reading, new experi-ences! seeking a nice man for poten-tial exciting relationship! Box 446724

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FUN-LOVING FEMALE
Attractive, 31, 5'4", size 12, dark hair
with blonde highlights, tactile, witm
intelligent, professional, attractive guy,
for a happy relationship. Tunbridge
Wells, Box 308734 © @
FRIENDSHIP, MAYBE MORE

Social, genuine, honest, single mum, 36, 5ft6. I've got hazel eyes and dark hair, and enjoy the cinema, meals out. WLTM sincere, attractive, genuine male. Box 446840 TRY ME

TRY ME
Ashford based woman looking for an honest, friendly, caring, and loving man. I have 2 kids, and enjoy the usual things in life. Box 446985
■ MEND A BROKEN HEART

Lovely female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large-build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for LTR. Box

SEIZE THE DAY

SEIZE THE DAY
Loving female, 36, 5f4, brown hair,
green eyes, likes socialising, staying
in, seeks genuine male for friendship
and more. Box 428666

ON THE LOOKOUT FOR LOVE
37vr old female. 2 kids. slim. brown

37yr old female, 2 kids, slim, brown hair and eyes, 5ft2, looking for a caring, loving, honest and trusting male to be my someone special. Box 446552 **⊕**

AN AFRICAN DIAMOND 38yr old African girl, likes cookin going out, watching films and da ing, seeking a loving and caring Box 446676 **①**

for companionship... Box 4

DON'T LET ME DOWN Pretty, black female, 38, 5ft4, like football, socialising and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male, 38-42, for a LTR. Box 446684

■

FUTURE FUN, PASSION & ADVENTURE

PASSION w. Separated brilliant brunette, 39, single mum, 5ft7, likes swimming and house music, WLTM a kind and considerate tall white male with dark shoulder length hair. Box 445684 1

Tunbridge Wells lady, brown hairleyes, 38. I'm a teacher and love theatre, reading, cinema, swimming, travel. Looking for file minded chap for happy times. Box 444923 **

NO TIES

NO TIES

Lonely, bored, professional Tunbridge
Wells Asian Iady, 40, WLTM slim, single, solvent, professional white male
40-50 for company, fun, love and laughter, Box 443573 ©
HAPPINESS, THE
GREATEST GIFT...
Show the work of the company of the c

COME ON OVER
Divorced female, 40, likes fishing, swimming, walking and eating out, WLTM young man, for friendship and more. Box 446097 •

more. Box 446097
THE HOME LIFE
Happy, caring female, homely, tactile
and honest. I'm black African, 41,
5ft2, medium build, and would like
LTR with the right person. Box 446024 **①**YOU'LL SMILE IF YOU DIAL

Bubbly 40yr old female, enjoys beaches, pubs, clubs, wltm a likeminded, caring male to share fun

FUN AND ROMANCE
Attractive woman, 41, 5ft6, blonde
hairblue eyes. I'd like to meet a gu
for romance and fun, I enjoy cinem
pubs, meals out. Box 447009

FREE AD placement, call: 0808 156 5339

COLLECT your messages: 0906 550 4335

PASSION FOR YOU Medium build woman, 41, 5ft2, kind, caring, loving and tactile, GSOH, looking to meet a nice man for a LTR.

LETS CLICK

LETS CLICK WI.TM a nice guy with a similar nature; I'm an outgoing woman, 42, with brown hair and green eyes. Tell me about you! Box 446847 TO CAN YOU HANDLE ME?

CAN YOU HANDLE ME?
I'm a 42 year old professional lady,
long dark hair, brown eyes, petite witt
a wacky SOH. Looking for friends to
chill with, then who knows? Box

884441 **©** BORN TO MAKE YOU HAPPY

Caring lovable lady, 42, genuine, short brown hair, lacks confidence!



FAIRY TALE ENDING

FAIRY TALE ENDING
Good-looking slim blonde, 42, tired of
kissing frogs, seeking an intelligent,
solvent professional male to be my
prince. Box 446521

WHITE ROSES
Very attractive female, 42, slim, greet eyes, high cheek bones, wicked SOH! Loves to make people laugh, seeking intelligent, well-mannered, kind man for friendship/relationship. Box 446543

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS Laid-back single mum, very bubbly, outgoing and intelligent, 43, enjoys social life, drinks, meals, cinema; looking to start afresh with someone new, easygoing and life-loving. Box 446102 ①

445102 U
LOVELY JOSEPHINE
Passionate and fun-loving 43yr old
female, enjoys clubbing, meals out
and cooking, WLTM a male to share evenings out with. Box 445225 1

FAST LOVE Single lady, 43, likes gardening, eat-Single lady, 43, likes gardening, eing out, cinema, music and more, seeking male for friendship and maybe more. Box 446991 **①**YOU NEVER KNOW

THIS STATE OF INDEPENDENCE

UF INDEPENDENCE
Hard-working female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to
laugh, socialising with friends, looking
for independent man who values
TLC. Box 414156

■

DEAL OR NO DEAL? (IN DEAL)
Deal-based lady, 43, divorced,
brunette, green eyes, 5ft10, likes
going out, pubs, clubs, cinema, shopping, walks, loves films and all sports except cricket. Box 430384 ① ②

having a laugh, good company, friendship, would like to meet new friends for hopeful love... Box 888162

GENUINE REPLIES ONLY
Bubbly female, 44, brunette, n/s,
medium/large build, enjoys singing
and theatre. Would love to meet a
decent fun-loving guy, similar age,
pref non-smoker for LTR. Box
449595 O
LOVING, CARING & HONEST
Hard working single mum, young

Hard working single mum, young
44yr old, 5tfs, medium build, enjoys
dining out, holidays, cinema and
walks, WLTM a caring and genuine
male for friendship/relationship. Box
444751

Inter to intertus in intertus in intertus in intertus in intertus in intertus inter

Hi I'm 44, slim, 5ft8, a redhead, love nights out, socialising, looking for friendship initially and hopefully more later on. Box 889800 •

later on, Box 889800 **②**EVERLASTING LOVE Beautiful black female, 46, WLTM a caring, gentle and loving gentleman, 45-60, 5ft10+, pref a bit sporty, for a everlasting relationship. Tunbridge Wells Box 445407 **③**ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME? Caring rule female, 46 petite likes.

Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 144366

HAPPY GO LUCKY

HAPPY GO LUCKY
Sincere, happy woman, with GSOH.
Tim 566, with short brown hair, brown
eyes. I have bits of interests and
WLTM similar guy. Box 695019 G
BE MY FRIEND AND LOVER
Bubbly, carnip glay, 47, divorced with
2 teenagers, dark hair, medium buld,
into cooking, driving, love to talk,
laugh and have fun, seeking a normal
guy Box 428502 graden, seeking a normal
guy Box 428502 graden, inghis in/out, seeking genuine, friendly female, 49, likes
walks, gardening, nights in/out, seeking genuine, friendly male, 45-55.
Dover Box 435541 G
WHERER RU
WHERER UZ

Dover Box 435441
WHERE R U?

Cheerful, honest, popular blonde, 50yrs old, 5ft2, slim build, looking to find an honest, loyal man that can make me happy again. Box 887347

The state of the s

Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly easygoing single mum, 49, enjo cinema, eating out, socialising, things, WLTM genuine male, to trings, VVL1M genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562



REPLY to an ad. call: 0905 211 0651

REPLY by Gext

You can choose to text the member's 6-digit box number followed by a space, then your message (max of 160 characters) and send to **82250** e.g. 654321 Hi my name is... Standard network rates apply to send messages. Successfully forwarded messages cost £1.50 per message.

COMPANIONSHIP, LAUGHTER, HOPEFULLY MORE

HOPEFULLY MORE
Curry & cuddly, outgoing, friendly,
honest female, 53, 5ft7, larger build,
fair hair, likes socialising, country
walks, theatre, cinema, music, swimming, WLTM similar loving male. Box
443642

■

ARE YOU MY BOND... JAMES BOND?

BOND: JAMES BOND?
Kind, caring, attractive lady, young
53, 5'7', slim, brown hair/eyes. N/S,
GSOH, enjoys walking, reading, travel, socialising; seeking tall, considerate, honest gent for hopeful LTR.
Box 446079

■

SEEING THROUGH THE SHYNESS

THE SHYNESS
Attractive female, 53, intelligent, kind, funny, non-smoking, WLTM nice, kind, normal male, 50-60, for theatre, laughs and more. Box 446383
SEEKING SOULMATE

ENJOY LIFE
55yr old woman, brown hair/blue
eyes, 5ft2. I'm divorced with a grown
up family. I enjoy reading, travel, cin
ema, music, eating out. WLTM caring, genuine man. Box 446798
SOPHISTICATED SUE

Sue, 56yr old, 5ft4, green eyes, petite, loves cooking, holidays, reading and swimming, witm a tall profesional male similar are for friend

sional male, similar age, for friend-ship and romance. Box 443309 ① Quick, easy way to view a member's Photo!

followed by a space, then PHOTO and send to 82250

Your phone must be WAP-enabled

Add a photo of yourself

as subject.

Lonely lady, 62, 5ft3, medium build brown hair/eyes, likes dancing, walks, animal, seeks caring, considerate, outgoing male for friendship leading to LTR. Box 446382 •

Easygoing female, 40, blue eyes, blonde hair, medium build, likes wining, dining, socialising, holidays, walks cinema; seeking likewise female for companionship and more.

S2yrs, 5fl6, blonde, size 12 enjoys good food/wine, theatre, countryside, holidays, seeking a sincere, genuine female, for friendship first, possibly relationship Box 414143 LOVELY JO Varia loyking attractive female, 54



MEN seeking women

SIT IN
Genuine male, I enjoy football, golf, cosy nights, I'm 32, 6ft1, medium build, short dark hair, glasses. WLTM woman, 28-34 with a great personality. Box 884207

Sexy, athletic, red-haired man, 32, 5ft10, green eyes, looking for a seri-ous relationship with a bubbly female who loves fun and knows how to party. Box 884979 ①
HOPING TO BE
HAPPY TOGETHER
Paged Hide my 33 6ft2 large build.

Look for the P symbol. Just enter the six-digit Box number,

Register your number with us & send by MMS to 07746 738 788. Enter P2P

FANCY A DANCE?

Medium-built lady, 62, 5t3, likes dancing, walking, eating in/out, WLTM a caring and considerate male to stay in with on a cold winter's evening, Box 445123 IS THERE

SOMEONE OUT THERE?

Box 446953 **①**ATTRACTIVE, BUBBLY LADY



FANCY A DANCE? Fliratious, adventurous, energetic lady, mid 50s, 5ft3, loves all dancin walks, dogs and films, seeks inspir-ing male for fun evenings, spoiling and pampering. Box 884172 ①

HELP! Positive, vivacious female, 59, 514, loves art, seaside valks, music, seels callish, kind, caring male to grow old with...disgracefully, Box 444943 ● THE BEST CHRISTMAS OF THEM ALL Divorced lonely female, 61, 516, slim build, looking for similar male with SCOH for chark, dates, friendship and pethaps more. Box 446987 ■ CUDDLE UP

Women seeking women

g attractive female, 54.



CRAZY FOR YOU

Blond 39yr old lad, blue eyes, educat ed, attractive, solvent (just), genuine, loyal, adventurous and definitely different. Seeks beautiful future with someone like you. Box 885814 MARSHAL ME MARSHAL ME
Chris, 39, 5ft7, stocky, green-blue
eyes, short hair, Virgo, GSOH, love
swimming, walks on beaches, days
out, seeking similar female, for loving
times. Box 440167 ①
MAKE IT A LOVELY DAY

WILLIAM OF COMMENTED TO THE METERS OF THE

Decent nice guy, 33, 6ft2, large build, enjoys drinks, films, socialising, look-ing for a female 35-45, looks unim-portant/personality essential! Hastings. Box 446166

Hastings. Box 446166

LOVE ME TENDER
Fun-loving honest guy, 34, 5ft11, brown hair, seeking honest, caring female for firendship, maybe leading to honest, tender relationship.
Eastbourne. Box 446200

TAKING IT EASY

TAKING IT EASY

AUGUMENT TAKING IT EASY

Outgoing, confident quy, 39, 6ft, tanned, affileit build, brown eyes, shaved head, loves going outfstaying in and music, laid-back attitude seeking like-minded lady. Box 151143

Destanted To MEET U

Down-to-earth, caring, loving male, 31, 6°4°, dark hairleyes, likes spots, likes sout, looking for fun, easygoing female, 20-45, or lasting love. Box 370046

SHARING GOOD TIMES Independent dad, 35, 6ft, blond hair blue eyes, slim-medium build, great SOH, likes nights indout, pubbing, etc), seeking female who's honest. Box 448966

80x 448966

10x 448966

10

etc. seeking female who's ho Box 446966 THE WHOLE PACKAGE Sincere down-to-earth male, 36, 5ffff, dark blonde, blue eyes, clean, passionate, seeking genuine black female with great personality, looks/size/religion unimportant, for fun, friendship, maybe more. Box 447034 0

EVERY HEARTBEAT Fast-thinking 36yr old male looking to meet a female for fun and friend-ship, hopefully a LTR. Likes the nor-mal things in life, many interests. Box 4/4690@ A.

mal things i 446899 **①**

NON-SMOKING
Sparated male, 37, 6ft, slim, good looks, NS, gsoh, kind, caring, sensu-al, likes keeping fit, movies, nights in/out, seeks caring, slim, active female for LTR. Box 445729 © HERE I AM
I'm Stuart, 36, 6ft6, short dark hair, stoky halid live squash had-

HERE! I AM

I'm Stuart, 36, 6165, short dark hair,
stocky build, love squash, badminton, swimming, the gym, theatie,
seeking a furn-boving, nice lady for
loyalty and love. Box 437106
■
EVERYTHING I DO
Lee, driver, 359 rold, 6163, dark hair,
like plus, clubs, wine bars, places of
interest gons and reading, with a
woman for friendship and romance.
Box 889720
■
TU 4 ME?

Down-lo-earth, loyal guy, 36, looking
for companionship, leading to a longterm relationship. Eingly meals out,
good company, conversation, cosy

good company, conversation, cosy evenings in. Box 914917 ① ②

and romantic times. Looking for someone similar. Box 884450 **⊕** FULL MARKS Hi I'm Andrew, 38, 613, dark hair, blue eyes, hardworking guy, friendly, tacille & outgoing, likes enjoying life, with me asygoing female for friendship/relationship. Box 443488 **⊕**

0906 753 3093 **HELP** required with service?

BROWSE and listen line:

0871 220 9205

444937 **①**HOP ON!
Hi, I'm Mark, 6ft, slim/medium build, lots of interests including motorcy-cles, WLTM a kind and honest female to share fun times and laughter with. Box 445124 **①**HONEST, SINCERE,

HONEST, SINCERE,
OUTGOING
Male, 39, 517, slim, brown hair/browr
eyes, really looking for that special
lady to make me happy in life, dine
with, drink with and more. Box
446803 •

SOULMATE SOUGHT
Devoted dad, 43, blond hair, blue
eyes, 6ft1, likes travelling, spiritualism, meals in/out, seeking female
with GSOH for fun times and hopefully much more. Box 446477
PILL MAKE YOU LAUGH

rul make YOU LAUGH
Very romantic, caring and loyal male,
44, slim, blue eyes, fair hair, great
SOH, seeks female with similar interests for hopeful LTR. Hastings area.
Box 446120

DAD'S THE WORD
Lonely similar male. Merch 6 11 11

Lonely single male, 44, 6ft2, fair hair, great SOH, quite happy but looking for a lady 30-60 to have fun with, hopefully something else. Box 446452 ①

Box 441706 **T**FAITH IN LOVE

Recently widowed dad, 45, silvery-dark hair, friendly, humorous, interested in a fun-loving, caring woman who's preferably Roman Catholic, for LTR. Box 884155 **T**

DOWN TO MARGATE!

YOUNG AT HEART Dependable, easygoing guy, I love animals, good food, music, films, good conversation, country pubs. I'm 45, with blue eyes, Box 446761 ①

FOR FUN, FRIENDSHIP, FOREVER?

FRIENDSHIP, FOREVER?
Romantic gentleman, 47, green eyes medium build, 5ft8, wicked SOH, bubbly personality, WLTM female to wine and dine and treat with respect. Box 446317 ①

LONESOME LAD LOOKING FOR LOVE

SAILING THE SEVEN SEAS Young-looking male, 38, 5ft9, dark hair, blue eyes, good-looking, no ties, a carpenter, likes the outdoors, seeks lady to sail off and find love with. Box 444937 • HOP ON! ROMANCE, PASSION, LAUGHTER

Slim build male, 48, 6ft, dark brown hair, eyes, attractive, animated, confident, eclectic, seeking soulmate 43-53 forever. Box 446553 **D**LOKING FOR SOUL MATE

Sim male, 6ft1, 49yrs old, blond with a bit of grey! The divorced, and ready to start anew, WLTM genuine woman, who enjoys cosy times. Box 44638 SIMPLE AND SINCERE

Hi I'm John, 51, like animals, cinema, clubbing, furniture restoration, just seeking a good lady to be with. Box 447035 •

JOIN ME, COMPLETE US Hi, I'm 50 with two grown up kids, love country pubs, walks, life, GSOH, WLTM a nice lady to get to know of any age. Box 439922 ■ RECIPE FOR ROMANCE

Catering manager, male, 53, lc for bubbly, adventurous female have fun with. Box 446035 **D LOST WITHOUT YOU**

Dave tun with. Box 48eUs. ■

LOST WITHOUT YOU

Easygoing professional, 56, ful working order, gosh, enjoys outdoor life, travel and romantic nights in, WLTM liadile soutinate to light up my life, for life. Box 445059 ●

SEEKING FEMALE COMPANY

Regular guy, mid 50's, 5fl10, brown hariblue eyes. Tim easygoing, and enjoy antique fairs, meais in and out, music, etc. Box 446995 ●

FRIEMDSHIP, MAYBE

SOMETHING MORE

Heartbroken and lonely, genuine, semi-quiet widower, 60, has lots of TLC and cuddles to give to a lady who likes reading, walks and more. Box 446206 ●

COME ON OVER MAKE IT A LOVELY DAY
HI, I'M carl, 40, GSOH, 6ft, light
green eyes, brown hair, looking for an
fun, bubbly woman to share lauf, days out and much more. Box
436966 O
ASHFORD MAN
Attractive guy, nice to be with, laid
back, I'm 41, 5ft9, medium/stocky
build, brown hair. Own business and
home, enjoys walks, pubs, wine,
restaurants, formen. Box 437225 O
SOULMATE SOUGHT
Devoted dad, 43, blond hair, blue COME ON OVER
handsome male, 6ft1,

COME ON OVER
60/pr syoung, handsome male, 6ft1, athletic, own house/car, loves keep fit, cricket, music classical/blues, cooking, seeking lady to see what happens. Box 43836f ⊕ ⊕
MOVING ON
White male, 82, 5ft10, grey hair, likes the countryside, travel, watching sport, gardening, seeking non-smoking lady of similar age to share life with. Dover area. Box 446326 ⊕ ⊕
WHY DON'T WE
HAVE A CHAT?
Nice, romantic male, 64, semi-refired, NS, GSOBIL enlows dancing, beach

Nice, romantic male, 64, semi-retired, N/S, GSOH, enjoys dancing, beach walks, cuddles. WLTM female, 55-65, for friendship, hopefully relationship. Box 188254 **⊕**

Man seeking men

Seeking men FANCY A TUMBLE? Wrestling lan, male, 30, seeking gay guy for friendship. Get in bouch for a crist. Box. 447014 FUN TIMES Say old male, looking for fun with an attractive man. I'm good looking, with a sim/medium build. Box 437652 MAKING LOVE MAKING LOVE

MAKING LOVE
Genuine guy with great personality,
49, inexperienced with men, medium
build/height, seeking similar male
60+ to discover love with. Box
446184 THEREAL THING
Down-to-earth genuine person, 50

Down-to-earth genuine person, 50, 5ft10, of not bad looks, caring. hon-5ft10, of not bad looks, caring, hon-est, and lots of love to give, seeks LTR. Box 884844 **@** MAN 2 MAN Mature, bi guy, 50, 6ft, large build, likes nights in, looking for gent, 604-for regular meets in Sussex, hopefu ly leading to LTR Box 897705 **@**

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"NEW" BAND: From left, Dave Moore, Russell Hastings, Bruce Foxton and Rick Buckler are From The Jam. Below, Bruce Foxton gets airborne

Band emerge From The Jam

Friends reunite to form almost new band

ORIGINAL members of The Jam will be going underground once again as they bring the band's classic hits back to the stage.

Bruce Foxton and Rick Buckler decided to go on the road as From The Jam after a chance encounter back in 2006. Both their bands appeared on the same bill and the pair were asked to perform some of their old hits together.

The gig went so well – for both audience and performers – that the old friends decided to get back together and see how things went, 26 years after the band split.

With 18 consecutive UK hit singles

With 18 consecutive UK hit singles and a timeless back catalogue under their belts – including songs such as That's Entertainment and A Town Called Malice – the pair have a rich history to revisit.

Bassist Foxton essentially joined the line-up of Buckler's band The Gift and, along with Dave Moore on guitar and keyboard and lead guitarist Russell Hastings performing vocals, announced a tour last year.

Tickets sold out within days and it was clear that fans were just as keen to hear the music again as Foxton and Buckler were to play it.

and Buckler were to play it.

As for the choice of name, it was inspired by the fact so many people still know Foxton from his time with Buckler and original front-man Paul



FROM THE JAM Friday, December 19 Winter Gardens, Margate

Weller. After being constantly introduced to people as "Bruce Foxton from The Jam", it was the obvious candidate for the 'new' band's name.

Formed in 1972, The Jam shared the outlook of many bands of the era and their songs often carried strong political and social messages.

But they refused to follow the punk fashion and marked themselves out from the crowd with their sharp suits, which earned them the label of mod revivalists. It could be argued that this image impressed audiences who might have felt alienated by their outrageous contemporaries. Following The Jam's split in 1982, Foxton worked as a solo artist before spending 15 years with Stiff Little Fingers, during which time he recorded four albums with the band.

A reunion had not been on the cards for The Jam at any time before Foxton and drummer Buckler bumped into each other two years ago, but Paul Weller has made it clear he will not be joining them.

There are no hard feelings from his former bandmates, however, who are delighted with Hastings's work at the microphone and are just relishing the chance to be From The Jam.

Tickets cost £20. To book, phone 01843 292795/296111, or visit www. margatewintergardens.co.uk.



with **JANE CONNOLLY** Email jane.connolly@kosmedia.co.uk





MORE OF THE BEST MUSICALS EVER

Saturday, January 26 Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury

MUSICAL fans, both young and old, can experience the magic of the West End in Canterbury this weekend.

More of the Best Musicals

Ever features another helping of fantastic songs from favourite productions, along with fascinating stories of the actors' real theatre experiences.

Presented by the West-

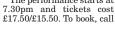
enders, the show claims to be more than just a tribute. Top singers and high quality musicians promise a unique evening of great music, amazing voices and humorous tales of their lives treading the boards.

The show features experienced and acclaimed musical performers, all ready to bring the West End experience to Kent.

PORTFOLIO

COLLECTION

Friday, January 25 Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury



the box office 787787 or go online at www.marlowetheatre.com.

liness and shocking beauty with the StopGAP Dance

Four charismatic professional dancers present dance by five international chore-ographers in the Portfolio Collection. Some dancers have dis-

SINGERS THE BEST ALEXANDER

abilities, others do not, and the pieces showcase strong technique with a healthy dose of humour.

From a raw male duet, charged with testosterone, to a provocative search for love, the show is full of thrilling and dramatic entertainment. It features rich lighting, great costumes and an array of outstanding music, from Tarantino-like sounds to Spanish tunes.

The show, which is for over-14s, is supported by the National Disability Touring Network.

Portfolio Collection will be performed at 7.45pm and tickets cost £12/£10.

To book, call the box office on 01227 769075 or see www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.

EXPERIENCE an evening of serene chaos, sinister love-





COCKTAILS AND CABARET Thursday, February 14

Orange Street Music Venue, Canterbury

GLAMOUR pusses will be in heaven at the launch of a sophisticated new show, Cocktails and Cabaret.

The regular weekly event will be kicked off in style on Valentine's Day, with star guests

Patti Plinko and Her Boy.

Audiences will be enchanted by the beautiful Patti and her alternative rag and swing, which consists of ukuleles, silk stockings and blood red shoes.

This unique act is heavily influenced by British music hall, old European cinema and the satirical world of Berlin cabaret.

Praised by successful acts such as The Puppini Sisters, she will "whisper and woo the audience into a dark, seductive world of art, sex and death.'

Future acts booked for the Cocktails and Cabaret evening include the University Dance Troupe, with a DJ and Moulin Rougestyle dancing, on Thursday, February 21

Tickets for the launch night cost £4/£3 and the fun starts at 8pm.

Find out more about the performers at www.myspace.com/pattiplinkoandherboy. Details of other events can be found online at www.orangestreetmusic.com



SWALE LEISURE

String orchestra bring Williams' music to life

A VAUGHAN Williams anniversary concert is being held in Faversham this

weekend.
Violin and viola soloist Penny Howard will join the Oare String Orchestra at the Alexander Centre in Preston Street on Saturday. The programme will include music by Williams, Neil Gardner, Vivaldi, Howells and Holst.
Tickets cost £10/£5. For more details

e www.oare-string-orchestra.org or call

Baroness to speak at special church service

THERE will be a special service at the St Mary of Charity church in Faversham on

Sunday.

The Churches Together in Faversham United Service will start at 10.30am and United Service will start at 10.30am and will feature guest speaker, Baroness Caroline Cox. Formerly Deputy Speaker of the House of Lords, Baroness Cox is now CEO of the Humanitarian Aid ReliefTrust and will be talking about helping the forgotten peoples.

The service is expected to last for an hour and a half. Find out more about the trust at www.hart-uk.org.

Catastrophic truth to be shown at cinema

LEARN all about An Inconvenient Truth at the Royal Cinema in Faversham on Monday.

Al Gore's Oscar-winning documentary about the environmental catastrophe facing our planet starts at 8pm. It is being screened in connection with Swale Friends of the Earth.

Find out more about the organisation at www.swalefoe.org.uk or call Claire Wright on 01795 535421.

Enjoy some energetic music when pair play

GUITAR duo Mac & Rog will be showing off their music skills at the Plough Inn in

Norton on Wednesday.

The pair are great friends who enjoy playing together in their own energetic style, performing music across the board. Find out more about the duo online at

www.rogerbetts.com.
For more details about the gig, call the pub in Lewson Street on 01795 521348.

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An evening meal out or a pub lunch?

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SWALE SHOPPING



Enjoy a little something different at wine bar

WANT to celebrate the festive season in style this December?

Then why not head to Whitstable's

Deco 5, at 15-17 Oxford Street, is a wine bar and art gallery and is hoping to lure in those seeking something a little different than the normal pub or club.

It opened at the end of last month with a glitzy private bash for 150 invited guests – with staff dressed in 20s style as live jazz played.

For more details of the venue log-on to www.deco5.co.uk.

Don't dawdle or you'll miss out on top titles

FOOTBALL titles FIFA 09 and Pro Evolution Soccer 2009 are set to be the must-have video games this Christmas.

That's according to the manager of

Canterbury's Gamestation store, which has identified the games flying off the

of the run-up to the big day.

Other big sellers include Professor Layton & the Curious Village on the DS, Wii Music (Wii), Lips (Xbox 360) and Gears of War 2 (Xbox 360, PS3). But be wide the reset resource in the base of the reset resource in quick - the most popular titles have a knack of selling out.

You won't feel fleeced by valuable discounts

WOOLWORTHS' apparent demise is set wooLwork Hs apparent demise is set to be a big blow for high streets across the country – but its final death throes are also providing some bargains. Its stores across Kent launched a clos-ing down sale on Thursday – in addition

to the savings of up to 50 per cent which

rolled out the previous week.

Most items have savings of at least 10 per cent – and provide an opportunity to bid farewell to one of the nation's bestloved, and longest-running stores.

Digital camcorder looks like a flippin' good buy

CAPTURE all the most special moments this Christmas with the new Flip digital camcorder.

A hit with celebrities, the 'point and shoot' camcorder can record up to an hour of footage and upload directly to your computer using a built-in USB plug. Videos can even be edited and emailed

directly from the Flip.

Available in the Flip Ultra, which runs on AA batteries, (£99.99) and the rechargeable Flip Mino (£119.99) models, it comes in a variety of colours.

For details visit www.flipvideo.co.uk.



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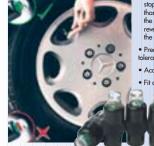
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YOUR TV REVIEW



ALL CLUED UP: The panel on BBC Two's quiz show Eggheads is sure to infuriate most viewers

EGGHEADS

BY **MARIJKE COX**

BBC 2, 6pm, weeknights

others is the utter dislike it manages to

conjure up in its viewers for the self-

righteous, pompous Eggheads – this is partly why the show is so brilliant.

Of the five – who include a Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? winner, a

Mastermind geek and a Going For Gold victor – the most irritating is CJ

De Mooi, winner of The Weakest Link

team-mates and looks down his nose

He even pretends to be clueless when asked a question by presenter Jeremy Vine, who has temporarily taken over from Dermot Murnaghan,

only to swoop in at the end with an "uneducated guess" and get it right.

I honestly think I can see deep-set resentment in the eyes of the other Eggheads, who, although still annoy.

ing, are nowhere near as smug as CJ.

The show is now in its sixth series

and, to mix it up a bit, producers have

brought in a new genius to sit beside

Viewers should tune in to watch the inevitable downfall of the Eggheads

surely their winning streak can't go on

the others on a rota basis.

for much longer.

and a Mensa Chess Champion. The former model tuts at his fellow

at his competitors.

IF there was a prize for the most annoying contestants on a quiz show, then the BBC's Eggheads would most definitely win.

And, unlike other TV quizzes where so-called braniacs get shipped in for just one episode, this smug bunch of five is the basis for the whole show.

The Eggheads are supposedly five of the greatest quiz-show players in Britain, and by watching them anni-hilate those who come up against them each day this could be true.

The format is for five other self-proclaimed geniuses to come in and fight it out against the Eggheads in the hope of walking away with cash.

If the challengers lose, the money rolls over to the next day and another battle of the brains starts with some more deluded contestants, who truly seem to believe they will leave victorious.

In more than 300 episodes, only 20 or so teams have managed to beat the Eggheads.

In each round, an Egghead and contender go head-to-head, and whoever loses is disqualified from taking part in the fifth and final part of the quiz, general knowledge.

In almost every episode the rivals lose each round and the last person on the competing team has to face all five

Eggheads alone – and usually loses. But how this quiz show differs to

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRAN



YOU'RE very sensitive to your surroundings now. It's possible a friend needs your help. You've always been an independent person who marches to the beat of your own drum and showing them how to become more assertive will be a valuable lesson for you both.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Aquarius 09067-531762

store call Russell on Pisces 09067-531763 TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

YOUR compassionate approach makes you popular at work. People will be asking you for advice or seeking your help in resolving conflicts. Don't be surprised if you are given a raise or promotion as a result of your contributions. Falling in love with someone looks likely.

• To find out more about what the stars have in

store call Russell on Taurus 09067-531753

store call Russell on Leo 09067-531756

LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23) VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23) A BUSINESS associate or romantic partner wants to take care of you. Stop turning them away. Allowing someone to pamper and pet you will bring about a new closeness in your relationship. Money may not be available to indulge a whim. Learn to live with less. • To find out more about what the stars have in

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22) HOME provides a wel-come haven from the outside world. Extra money could become available to do some improvements. Resist the urge to hire a friend to do this work or a perfectly good friendship will fall to ruin. If somebody owes you money

you'll struggle to get it back.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Scorpio 09067-531759

PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20) WORKING in quiet solitude gets your creative juices flowing. A teacher who is impressed by your talent will urge you to take your studies further. Don't let a cautious friend talk vou out of this plan. They're worried you won't be able to reach your goal, but they underestimate you.
• To find out more about what the stars have in

GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22) GOING on a spiritual quest will be very enlightening. You can benefit from asking yourself some deep-rooted questions. As a child, you may have been discouraged from exploring such thoughts. Now that you are grown, you have the freedom to delve deeper.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Gemini 09067-531754

WORK could give you lots of quiet satisfaction. It gives you great comfort to know that your efforts are appreciated. You don't have to do something grand to make a positive difference. Greeting customers with a smile and inquiring after their health may mean more than you realise. • To find out more about what the stars have in

SAGITTARIUS (Nov23-Dec21) YOU soak up information like a sponge. Family responsibilities are driving you to distraction. You've been given more than your fair share of the work and now it's time to delegate some jobs to others. If you have a roommate, there could be a row

store call Russell on Virgo 09067-531757

about housework.
• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Sagittarius 09067-531760

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20) SPENDING time with your nearest and dearest broadens your horizons. You may develop an interest in a charitable cause because a friend is involved. You may discover you have a talent for fund-raising. Granted, you aren't getting paid, but there will

be different compensations.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Aries 09067-531752

CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23) TRUST your intuition about a love affair. You know exactly what to say and do to melt your amour's resistance. A blissful bedroom encounter makes you forget your troubles. Work slips by in a flash because you know there's steamy evenings ahead of you.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Cancer 09067-531755

LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct23) INDULGE your love of luxury this week. This is a great time to go shopping for art supplies. Fancy paper and colourful inks give you a special lift. Working on something creative and decorative could inspire you to take up a new money-making venture

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Libra 09067-531758

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20) USE your imagination when it comes to making your money go further. Repairing things may be cheaper than buying brand new. If you're thinking of going on a vacation, search the internet for inexpensive accom-modation. Give an older friend your respect.
• To find out more about what the stars have in

store call Russell on Capricorn 09067-531761

Calls cost 75p per minute. Service provided by g8wave London N7

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Join us for a Rail-Cruise to the best ports on the eastern Mediterranean, Louis Lines' Orient Queen weighs 15,781 tonnes and has 364 cabins and 329 crew. On board you will find a casual and friendly atmosphere, warm hospitality and attentive service. The cruise itinerary offers a complete destination experience, combining famous highlights with

The holiday starts with an escorted **afternoon** departure on Eurostar from St Pancras International, London. We travel to Lille or Paris where, we break our journey with an overnight stay at a hotel. Early the next morning we join the TGV to Marseilles, arriving early-to-mid afternoon. From here we have a short transfer to the Orient Queen to start our 10-night cruise.

During the cruise, relax and watch the world go by, enjoy great food and entertainment, and venture ashore at the numerous ports of call. You can also choose from a comprehensive selection of optional shore excursions taking-in: Portofino, Pompeii, Athens, Ancient Ephesus, Mount Etna and more.

At the end of the cruise we disembark after breakfast in Marseilles and take the TGV to Lille or Paris where we join the Eurostar to St Pancras, London, arriving early-to-mid evening.

INCLUDED: Escorted from London • Return Eurostar & TGV to Marseilles • 1 night in Lille or Paris • 10night cruise aboard the Orient Queen - based on 2 people sharing a standard inside cabin (outside cabin from £1,159pp; sole occupancy cabin from £1,199pp) • All meals on board (breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea & dinner each day) • Entertainment on board









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Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9

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	П			3			9		2
	П				5			3	6
2	П		4					7	
1	П	П		П	4	П	7	П	Г

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Drudgery, drivel youth leader completed (7)
- **5** Igor, he's becoming monstrous (7)
- **9** Man had most of the key material (4)
- 10 Move about gracefully with flighty creature in the vicinity (4.6)
- **12** Begin a friendship and start to play (6,2)
- 13 See rag removing fat (6)
- 14 Sculptor? One giving help to those in need (6,6)
- 17 Feeling of evil to come, now it grips fellows (12)
- 21 Teach in class (6)
- 23 I enter local hotel at French resort (8)
- 24 Uncommunicative having fastened one's clothes? (8-2)
- 25 Somewhat wishy-washy and pale (4)
- **26** Now we know everything has been taken into account (3,4)
- 27 Spouting, making it black? (7)

DOWN

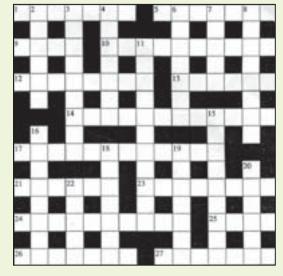
- 2 Light-heartedness of Matthew reaching limits of territory (6)
- 3 Green deposit camouflaged diver's rig (9)
- 4 Square man? (7)
- ${\bf 6}$ Unnatural gas in warm reflected light in the city (7)
- **7** Summon lady about fine (5)
- 8 Threatening the left (8)
- 11 Sweet plot has been made uncomfortable for sleeping (5-3,3)
- 15 Having a slowing effect on arrant Ted remarkably (9)
- **16** Undisturbed taking more than half of the drug (8) **18** Token loan arranged very short time inside (7)
- **19** Pattern was enough (7)
- 20 Kitchener covered river in Hampshire (6)
- 22 Eight working and playing together (5)

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No66

SCRIBBLE HERE



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS



QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Desirous (7) 5 Wolfgang Mozart (7)
- 9 Way out (4)
- 10 Double-quick lifestyle (4-6)
- **12** Fleeing (2.3.3)
- 13 Uterus (anag.) (6)
- **14** Pointed shoe (6-6)
- 17 Following normal romantic pattern (3-5-4)

HARD

- 17 Following normal romantic 21 Temporarily (3.3)
- **23** Shining (8)
- 24 That may be allowed (10)
- **25** Ward off (4) **26** Crisp salted biscuit (7)
- **26** Crisp saited **27** Label (5-2)

DOWN

- 2 Onerous (6)
- 3 Involved with latest fashions (2,3,4)
- 4 Purple crocus (7)
- 6 Weakling (7)
- **7** Sod (5)
- 8 Deprived of courage (8)
- torn (3.5.4) 11 Association for unattached people (7,4)
 - **15** Of heat (9)
 - 16 Driver of stolen car (8)
 - 18 As a group (2,5)
 - 19 Pectins (anag.) (7)
 - 20 Autonomous board (6)
 - 22 Contaminate (5)

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No66

ACROSS: 1 False alarm 7 Weep 9 Madrigal 10 Janice 11 Low-profile 14 Quivered 15 Azores 16 Public 18 Flameno 20 Hispaniola 23 Stereo 24 Momentum 25 Scut 26 Manicurist. DOWN: 2 Adam 3 Scry 4 Angular 5 Allowed 6 Majorca 7 Windflower 8 Excellence 12 Futuristic 13 Euripit 17 Conform 18 Frogman 19 Anaemic 21 Knar 22 Buss.

QUICK SOLUTION No67

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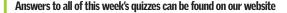
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ON GENERAL RELEASE

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA (U)



While trying to return to New York City and their beloved zoo, Marty, Alex and the rest of the animals become

stranded in the wilderness of the African plains, meeting their wild cousins for the first time. Will they enjoy their new-found home, or will they want to get back to Central

TRANSPORTER 3 (15)



The third instalment in the fast-paced action film series sees Jason Statham return as the professional "transporter" who will deliver any package, anywhere no questions asked. On his latest mission he finds himself electronically tagged - this time he must

FOUR CHRISTMASES (12A)



Be prepared for a crazy Christmas. Reese Witherspoon and nce Vaughan star as a couple whose plans for an exotic Christmas are thrown into disarray when the airport becomes fog-bound. Instead, they find themselves forced to attend four separate family celebrations on the same

Being brought to book

■ BY KATE WHITING

PAUL Bettany is a busy man. His two latest films - The Secret Life Of Bees and Inkheart – are about to reach cinemas within a week of each other and he's currently filming the Darwin biopic Creation with his wife, Jennifer Connelly.

When we get a moment to speak, he's en route from the Creation set in Wiltshire to meet Jennifer in London, where she's promoting her latest film, a sci-fi adventure with Keanu Reeves.

The British actor, who's now

based in New York, achieved leading-man status in 2004's Wimbledon before playing a twisted monk in The Da Vinci

Despite working continuously since then, it's clear the most important role in his life now is being a father to his two sons, Kai.

11, and Stellan, five.
"When my films are coming out, I have to do a lot of press and people tend to see you more and recognise you, but then I'm able to flip back into being a dad again, which is great," the 37-year-old

says.
It was actually the couple's eldest son who inspired Bettany to take on his latest role in the film adaptation of the first book in Cornelia Funke's Inkworld trilo-

gy. "Kai was reading Inkheart himself when the script turned up and he was loving it, so in quite a cynical attempt to make him think I was cool, I decided to take the part," Bettany says.
Inkheart tells the story of 12-



DUAL ROLE: Paul Bettany stars in Inkheart and The Secret Life of Bees

year-old Meggie Folchart and her bookbinder father Mo (Brendan Fraser), who has the power to 'read' fictional characters out of books who then swap places with

Unfortunately, while reading Inkheart aloud, he reads Meggie's mother into the book and out come the evil Capricorn and a host of other magical folk, including fire-eater Dustfinger (Bettany), who tries to help find

Meggie's mother.

"He was a really good character to play, because you couldn't tell whether he was a goodie or bad-die to begin with," says Bettany.

"He's a much more complicated goodie than we often get in modern children's stories.

To get into character, Bettany had to learn to swing chains with flaming balls of fire on the end called poi – "YouTube it, it's quite amazing" – but it's not a party

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trick he's planning to keep.
"What often happens with these

things is the filming ends and I've got so bored and frustrated at having tried to get something right for the film. It's the same with tennis. I made Wimbledon and the moment it was over I didn't play again for years."

The all-star cast is completed by Dame Helen Mirren, who plays Meggie's great-aunt Elinor, Jim Broadbent as Inkheart's author Fenoglio, and Andy Serkis as Capricorn.
"The shoot was lovely, it's a fam-

ily film so there was a family atmosphere. My kids were out there a lot," Bettany says.

Dame Helen was in the midst of

all the Oscars buzz over her per-formance in The Queen during the filming of Inkheart, but Bettany says she was down-to-earth and totally committed to her role.

"She was so studious. I turned up for my first day of rehearsals and she had this huge carrier bag. I asked, What's in the bag? and she said, 'My research'. It was her research for the part in this kids' movie. I couldn't believe it!"



INKHEART

Certificate PG

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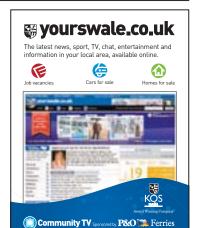
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MOTORS NEWS



Land Rover promoting its two top used buys

BARRETTS Land Rover in Ashford is promoting used examples of the award-winning 2008 model year Discovery 3 and the Freelander 2. Mark Nicholas, dealer principal at Barretts Land Rover, said: "We're aware

that customers are looking for value now more than ever and a Land Roverapproved vehicle provides a very attractive proposition to discerning local drivers.

"Not only does an approved vehicle achieve the same standards as a new model, it also reassures customers through Land Rover's 'Approved' war-ranty (a 12-month policy on vehicles up to five years old and registering up to 60,000 miles) or the 'Select' warranty (a three-month policy for vehicles up to seven years old and registering with less than 100,000 miles)."

Crowned as the Best Used 4x4 in 2008, Crowned as the Best Used 4x4 in 2008, the credentials of the Discovery 3 were described as "impeccable, extremely capable in the rough, yet extremely comfortable on the road" by What Car? magazine at its awards earlier this year.

Land Rover's entry level Freelander 2 has also won Best Compact SUV from

Auto Express and Best 4x4 at What Diesel? magazine's Car of the Year



Blue means green at Mercedes-Benz dealer

MERCEDES-Benz of Tonbridge is inviting motorists to clean up their automotive act with a host of efficiency-focused

The Vale Rise retailer has recently welcomed the fuel economy-enhancing and emissions-lowering BlueEfficiency A160 CDI and is set to debut BlueEfficiency versions of the C-Class (pictured) and B-

Class.
All the models utilise cutting-edge technology to be as efficient as possible

and lower owners' running costs.
For example, the A 160 BlueEfficiency's emissions of just 119g/km means the diesel-powered hatchback is eligible for a 12-month annual road fund licence at a cost of only £35.

"BlueEfficiency models represent the massive investment that Mercedes-Benz is making on providing our customers with cars that are both environmentallycompatible and more affordable than ever to run," said Richard Moore, Mercedes-Benz of Tonbridge's sales



LOOKING GOOD: Honda's new Jazz looks lower and wider and could be the right car for many who want to economise and downsize without loss of space in the face of higher tax

Honda welcomes you to their new Jazz age

HONDA has a new Jazz, but resisted too much improvisation on a much-loved tune.

On the other hand, while the new generation seems familiar there is much more to like, particularly sharper styling for this supermini/MPV

And this will be key to sales this time: 60 per cent of buyers for the 2002 original were aged 56-75, but Honda now wants younger buyers and could clean up – half of Jazz customers buy another and its reliability/customer satisfaction and low depreciation records are impressive.

Class

It could be the right car too as people look to economise and downsize without loss of space in the face of higher fuel and tax.

The new car looks lower and wider with much visual work done simply by double-creasing the bonnet to reverse the pinching effect of the single line on the old car.

The interior was never poor, but looks a class above while the 'magic' rear seats have been refined and carried over; the bases can be

HONDA JAZZ

■ BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	****
Image	****
Space	****
Value	****
Running costs	****
Reliability	****
Green rating	****

flipped up for extra stowage on the floor and with both sides fastened back you could even load a bike crossways.

The backs also fold down in the conventional way to create a cavernous load area.
Other nips and tucks are better visibility out

of the front quarterlight area, standard fit height adjustment on the driver's seat—it might height adjustment on the driver's seat—it might be supermini size, but you can now have a high-er MPV-style driving position—and further improvement to the ride quality. Both petrol engines are refined, lively and frugal enough to cover the omission of a diesel—the company

hints at a future hybrid option instead.

It is a tough call for best buy; the 1.2 (from £9,990) does it all, but the 1.4 ES manual (£11,490) has extra comforts and can also be specc'd with the clever all-new i-Shift automated manual transmission – far better than the old CVT (continuously variable transmission) auto box on the previous Jazz.

The new arrangement is superior and undercuts fuel consumption of the standard manual and even rivals the 1.2 unit, while reducing CO2 emissions to 125g/km.

• Email steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk



USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

UK'S BEST-SELLING FAMILY HATCHBACKS carsf@rkent.co.uk

LOOKING for a car that does it all? Start shopping for a family hatchback; it seats five, can be crammed like a small van and represents a good balance of space, flexibility and economy... providing you don't go for the 'hot hatch' version. Family hatches dominate the UK top ten – all three of our recommendations are regulars – and the end product needs to be good to compete at all against talented opposition. Market clout helps, of course, but this trio deserves to be there on merit too – check out the profiles below...

FORD FOCUS



BRITAIN'S favourite car. Or is it? Some say it's number one through Ford's formidable market share. Fair point, but the Focus is also great to drive, practical, well-made and blessed with good engines. For second-hand buyers there is a fantastic choice of power – including the rapid ST – trim levels and body styles: a smart saloon and estate plus a coupé convertible. The car's popularity and ordinary looks are a weakness though and reason enough for some buyers to look elsewhere.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	****
Looks and image	****
Space	****
Value	****
Running costs	****
Reliability	****
Quality	****

VAUXHALL ASTRA



SUFFERS like the Focus from being a common sight, thanks to its lofty new car top-ten sales position. But nobody could accuse the Astra of being dreary looking; Renault Megane aside, it is the most sharply-styled family hatchback on sale. Vauxhall has also differentiated between the three-door model and the five-door workhorse. There is a longer wheelbase estate too. Engine options, including impressive Fiat-derived diesels. are some of the best in the business.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	****
Looks and image	****
Space	****
Value	****
Running costs	****
Reliability	****
Quality	****

VW GOLF



IT costs extra to get into a Golf, signalling the power of a more premium bonnet badge. Highly-regarded diesels also keep used prices up, while the GTI hot hatch lends glamour to the whole range. Interior quality and ambience is top-notch too and the driving experience is possibly best in class. That said, the Golf suffers from fairly dull styling and some buyers might be tempted by sexier and cheaper used rivals such as the Citroën C4 and Megane.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	****
Looks and image	****
Space	****
Value	****
Running costs	****
Reliability	****
Quality	****

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ALFA ROMEO

146 TI, 5 door, p 1996, a car that will one day become a collectors item. one day become a collectors item. thic car is a 2 owner from new with full service history mainly main dealer. it has the 2.01 engine which produces 150bhp, along with a 5 speed manual gearbox.£1495,

SPIDER, 3.2 V6, qi57ffv, allov wheels SPIDER, 3.2 V6, gi57fly, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, climate control, drivers airbag, electric windows, leather interior, metallic paint, passenger airbag, trip computer, blue 9000 miles, £20995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, Unbridge Wells, Unbridge Wells, Drivers of the property of the property

AUDI

A2, SE 5dr, gk02 oec, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear washvilve, rear headrests, cloth upholstery, electric mirrors, adjustable seering column, height adjustable seet, remote the column, beginned to the column t

CADILLAC

CTS, cts 3.6 sport luxury v6, 2005. light platinum with black leather, 22379 miles, £12950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

AVEO. 2008, abs air conditioning anti eft protection cd player centra locking clock driver airbag poly silver, 25 miles, £8145, FGBarnes, Maidstone, 01622 755531 (TRADE)

CAPTIVA, LTX 2.0, gk08orw, finished in denim blue with black interior, blue, 4000 miles, £22995, Caffyns Chevrolet T Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01902 515700 (TRADF) 01892 515700 (TRADE)

KALOS, SX 5dr, du06wcf, central KALOS, SX 5df, du06wcf, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, alloy wheels, black, 8000 miles, £6495, Automatically Ray Morris (Bexleyheath), Bexleyheath, 01322 524 680 (TRADE)

KALOS, SX 5dr, 4739314, power steering, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, folding rear seats, rear wash/wipe, metallic paintwork, abs, multiple airbags, electric front windows, air conditioning, cd player, 14" alloys, blue, 10000 miles, £5995. Automatically Ray Morris (Welling) Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

CHRYSLER

300C 5.7v8 auto estate, 2007. 300C, 5.7v6 auto estate, 2007, brilliant crystal met with dark and light slate gr, 10577 miles, £18950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

NEON, 2.0 LXI, 1995 (n), 95 (n) chrysier neon C.U to automato, 5 door saloon, new mot, ew x4, em, pas, air bags, original hi-fi, only 1 owner from new a snip at now £995 many more quality pre-owned cars for sale on:
www.frivieracarsales.co.uk, metallic green, low mileage miles, 2only \$295, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

CITROEN

CITROEN BERLINGO 800, 04 2005, 1.9d lx sold with rac warranty side door white pas 43.000 miles fsh lined, £3495, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

CITROEN BERLINGO 800, 02 2005, 1.5 a ix sour with rac warranty side door white elec window white 49.000 miles fsh bulkhead lined, £3350, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, LX 800 2.0HDI Refrigerated Chiller, 2972180, grp lined, gah equipment, electric standby available if required (optional extra). lez compliant, white, 34000 miles, eggos publy common co £6295, BHRV, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

FIAT SCUDO, 09 2006, 2.0 jtd dynamic cd elec tric windows ply lined 23.000 miles fsh manufactuers warranty, 55995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

FIAT SCUDO EL. 05 2000, 2.0 itd 3 seats twin doors white 119,000 no vat, 0 miles, £2400, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763

BRAVO 100 SX, 2001 "y", a medium BRAVO 100 SX, 2001 "y", a medium sixed car with a 1.6 engine, pas chock shist very reasonly priced. a 3 month warrently is offerd on the screen price and we will take your old car in part exchange. a new mot test will be included. blue, 75, 000 miles, £1495. Courtenay Cars, Charling, Ashford, 01233 714848 (TRADE)

CINQUECENTO, m/1994, manual locking manual windows, red, 74, 000 miles, £was £695 now £595, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

COUPE, 2.0 16v, 1995, red, 72451 les, £1995, County Car Sales ver, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

PUNTO, JTD Dynamic, qd53fhm vers airbag, electric windows drivers airbag, electric windows, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, split/folding re seats, climate control, metallic pain black, 30000 miles, £4995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

PUNTO, CHILL, gl54ogn, anti-lock brakes, central locking, drivers airbag, electric windows, metallic an bag, electric windows, interallic paint, passenger airbag, power steering, split/folding rear seats, trip computer, blue, 21500 miles, £4495, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766

FORD

FORD CONNCET T220, 12 2004, 1.8 tidd 75 ps swb white ply lined 80.000 miles fsh sold with rac warranty, £3550, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

FORD CONNECT T200, 05 2004, 1.8 tdci 90 ps white 83.000 miles ply lined sold with rac warranty, £3550, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3i Studio [70] 3dr (2006 -), 29/07/2008, abs power steering immobiliser, black, 1681 miles, £5000, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

MONDEO, LX 1798cc 5 door, 2001 MONDEQ, LX 1798cc 5 door, 2001, cd player abs brakes air conditioning central locking alarm driver's airbag multiple airbags power steering immobiliser electric windows, gloss whight, 100000 miles, 2295, Northdown Road Motor Company, Margate, 01843 290890 (TRADE)

POWA, 104 301, 02:300/9, remote central locking, alarm, rear wash/wipe, electric front windows, electric mirrors, traction control, cloth upholstery, alloy wheels, silver, 67:500 miles, 52:495, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 88:55 4000 (TRADE)

RANGER, Thunder TDCI (LEZ COMP), wl07ahd-, remote central locking, full leather, centre armrest, traction control, abs, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, multi-disc od player, cd player, tonneau cover, adjustable stearing column, parking senery steering column, parking sensor, power steering, climate control, electric windows, 17" alloys, 4x4, tel. 01795 430295, black, 11000 miles, £9500, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

GRAND CHEROKEE, 1997, green 180000 miles, £2995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 CRDI SR [7 Seat] Diesel, 2008, insurance group 10 abs air CARENS, 2.0 CRDI SR | 7 Seat] Diesel; 2008, insurance group 10 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable rivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cdr rear electric windows remote central locking roof rails side airbags steering wheel case a dilistement prey locking roof rails side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment, grey, 14 miles, £11995, Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133

group 3 abs air conditioning body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows passenger airbag power steering radio/cd steering wheel rake adjustment, liquid silver, 6963 miles, £5695, Masters Bromle Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

RIO, Chill Diesel, 2008, delivery miles only air conditioning front electric windows abs power steering radio/cd delivery mileage graphite cloth interior, tropical red, £8995, Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662

LAND ROVER

DEFENDER, 90 TD5 County Station Wagon 41 000 miles, y207gkr, air conditionable, traction control, remote alarm, power steering, rear remote alarm, power steering, rear wash/wipe, side steps, sunroof, cd player, metallic blue, 41000 miles, £11995, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst 01580 890333 (TRADE)

DISCOVERY, TDI LEFT HAND DRIVE, 10952054, remote alarm, citon upholstery, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, twin air bags, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, side steps, air wasn/wipe, side steps, air conditioning, electric mirrors, electric windows, alloy wheels, 4x4, lhd. road tax is £185 per year. metallic blue, 125000 miles, £4995, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

B-CLASS, 1.5 B150 SE Hatchback 5d 1498cc, 06, 17" 7-spoke alloys, sport pack, climate, cd, 1 owner, fsh, please view our website to see our full stock, more b150 in stock, cosmos black with black half leather, under 18, 000 miles, £12995, Vikings Canterbury, 102 canterbury, 0125 Canterbury, Canterbury, 01227 711112 (TRADE)

COOPER, 2005, abs body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front head restrain height adjustable drivers seat isofix child seat anchor points pas passeapper airban radio(cf. child seat anchor points pas peassenger airbag radilo/cd multichanger rear headrests rear wiper remote central locking service indicator side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment, metallic silver, 35536 miles, £9995, WJ King Vauxhail, Bromley, 020 8464 3456 (TRADE)

NISSAN

ALMERA, 1.8 SE 5dr Auto (2002 -2005), 27/09/2005, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, blue, 46065 miles, £5000, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

ALMERA, S 5dr Auto, ef04 gfv, rear wash/wine, rear headrests, remote wash/wipe, rear headrests, remote central locking, remote alarm, electric front windows, height adjustable seat, cloth uphoistery, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, cd player, radio, abs, twin air bags, power steering, blue/silver, 46000 miles, £3495, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

CABSTAR, S34.11 Drop-side (LEZCOMP), fd07cnn, adjustable steering column, power steering, cloth upholstery, abs, air bag, electri mirrors, electric windows, cd player, minios, electric windows, co piagyar, metallic paintwork, dual passenger seat, aluminium silver, 14000 miles, £10495, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

KUBISTAR, SE dCi 70, 870182, side load door, ply-lined, cd player, abs, bag, electric mirrors, electric windows, power steering, remote central locking, roof rails, white, 25000 miles, £4195, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, folding rear seats, rear restraints, folding rear seats, rear wash/wipe, metallic paintwork, colour coded body, multiple airbags, abs, power steering, electric front windows, cd player, aluminium silver, 15000 miles, £5995, Automatically Ray Morris (Bestylenath), Bexleyheath, 01322 524 680 (TRADE)

MICRA. S 5dr. ex06hwc. anti-theft system, central locking, abs, pow steering, electric front windows, aluminium silver, 10000 miles, £6495, Automatically Ray Morris

NOTE, SE, gp07zfn, folding rear seats, rear wash/wipe, electric front vindows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, 15'' alloys, aluminium silver, 1400 miles, £8995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling),

PRIMASTAR, SE DCI 100 6spd, hy06svn, remote central locking, upholstery, bulkhead, side load di barn doors, parking sensor, powe steering, abs, air bag, electric mirrors, electric windows, cd player, white, 45000 miles, £6495, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 Commercials, Ser 853034 (TRADE)

Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

PEUGEOT EXPERT 900, 01 2006, 2.0 hdi sold with rac warranty 3 seats no vat twin doors white 40.000 miles fsh mpg 36, £5850, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT PARTNER 600 I, 06 2005, 1.9 d white side door 53.000 fsh sold with rac warranty, 0 miles, £3150, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT PARTNER 600L, 09 2005 1.9 diesel sold with rac warranty side door met silver ply lined 40.000 miles fsh, £3795, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT PARTNER 600L, 03 2005, 1.9d white side door 65.000 miles fsh sold with rac warranty, £2995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

106, INDEP 1., gf02vkb, finished orange with interior, orange, 270 miles, £3495, Caffyns Chevrolet 1 Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

106, Xn Zest 2 3dr, 796461, cloth upholstery, head restraints, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, folding rear seats, sunroof, cd player, stereo, red metallic, 77700 miles, £1999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

106, independance, 2000, green with black, 43968 miles, £2195, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

106, 1.1 XL Hatchback 3Dr 1124cc p/1997, manual windows central locking radio/cassette manual mirrors, red, 62, 000 miles, £1795, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

107, 1.0 Urban 5dr, 02/03/2007, cd player driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, yellov 19434 miles, £7000, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

107, Urban 2-Tronic 3dr, gl57oyp, central locking, immobiliser, electric front windows, cd player, yellow, 10000 miles, £6495, Automatically Park Morris (Melling), Welling, 2008 Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

central tocking, stude alloags, split/folding rear seats, trip computer, blue, 20 miles, £7495, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766

107, Urban, gl08cdf, anti-lock brakes, 107, urban, giuscut, anti-lock bra drivers airbag, electric windows, metallic paint, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, split/folding seats, trip computer, black, 20 mi £6995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

206. Quiksilver SW. wv05hkf. centra 206, Quiksilver SW, wv05hkf, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, hard leather, height adjustable seat, lumbar support, folding rear seats, rear headrests, roof rails, rear wash/wipe, air conditioning, cd player, alloy wheels, aluminium silver, 15000 miles, £7495, Automatically Ray Morris (Bexleyheath), Bexleyheath, 01322 524 680 (TRADE)

PORSCHE

911, 3.6 Carrera 2 Tiptronic S Coupe 2d 3596cc auto (2002), 07, 19" turbo alloys, sat nav, phone module, rear parktronic, sports chrono pack, sports parktronic, sports chrono pack, sports seats, sports suspension, sports exhaust, vts tracking system, rear wiper, premium carpet mats, climate, bose, cd, fsh, please view our website to see our full stock, basalt black with black leather, only 3, 000 miles, 555000, Vikings Canterbury, Caetechus, 01232, 711112, Canterbury, 01227 711112

911 Carrera 4, 2002, meridian silver with blue leather, 46000 miles, £29950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700

911 Turbo, 3.6 manual, 2003, black metallic with black leather, 17800 miles, £49950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

BOXSTER, 24v, 848182, anti-theft system, immobiliser, full leather, xenon headlamps, metallic paintwork abs, brake assist, adjustable steering aus, brake assist, adjustable steering column, colour satnav, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, satellite navigation, traction control, stability control, 18" alloys, aluminium silver, 22000 miles, \$20000 (Japanes Capanesiale) £20000, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

PROTON

PERSONA, 1.5 GLSi Saloon 4d 1468cc auto, s 1999, electric windows, power assisted steering, drivers airbag, sunroof, remote mirrors, radio cassette. green, miles, £1995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

RENAULT

CLIO, Privilege, feb 06, 5 doors, automatic, hatchback, petrol, 13, 075 miles, metallic grey, 2 owners. So point rear seat bels, das, air So point rear seat bels, das, air control, seat bels, das, air control, the control, body coloured bumpers, dolt seat tim, climate control, cruise control, drivers airdae, electricidor mirrors, folding rear seats, front electric windows, front head restantish, full size spare wheel, heated door mirrors, helght adjustable drivers seat. wheel, neated door mirrors, neight adjustable drivers seat, immobiliser, isofix child seat anchor points, lumbar support, pas passenger airbag, radio/cd, rear electric windows, rear headrests, electric windows, rear headrests, rear wiper, remote central locking, service indicator, side airbags, steering wheel rake adjustment, computerfull service renault history(last service 27/1008), 2 months tax, insurance groupc6, grey, £7250, KENT, 01843 585186

CLIO. DYNAMIQUE 1.2 3DR. 2004. ctiti, DYNAMIQUE 1.2 3DR, 2004, trim: cloth engine size: 1200 transmission: manual no. of doors: 3, mercury, 26000 miles, £5795, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

FORTWO, Pink Edition Cabriolet auto, lc06twa, remote alarm, remote central locking, abs, multiple airbags, front fog lamps, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, electric mirrors, electric windows, electric mirrors, power hood, air conditioning, cd player, 15" alloys, electric converti roof, always over 60 mercedes-be-cars in stock! we will not be beate on price! fully fsA regulated, pink, 15000 miles, £7995, DW Leisure Mercedes Benz Specialist, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

FORTWO COUPE, 2005, pulse 2dr auto, silver, 11726 miles, £4995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

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- RETAIL, WHOLESALE, SALES
- SCIENTIFIC AND PHARMACEUTICAL, RESEARCH
- TRANSPORT, LOGISTICS, AVIATION

Senior & General Appointments

32-35

lkestone, Marlowe and Spires Academies Clerk to the Governors/Project Officer

Are you a good organiser, able to bring people together and make things happen? Do you enjoy the challenge of finding out new information and compiling interesting and relevant reports?

Would you like to be at the cutting edge of educational change?

We are looking for someone who can combine the role of Clerk to the Governors for our three academies with a project officer role in supporting the development of our all age academy programme. This is the ideal job for an agile minded individual who enjoys the challenge of a varied range of responsibilities, working as part of a small Folkestone-based team.

Based in Folkestone Academy, you will be expected to travel to Canterbury and Ramsgate and be ready to adapt to a range of tasks.

- Start date: February or March 2009 Salary £24,000 pa + benefits

For an informal discussion please contact Gabrielle Wilson on 01303 212048 Application packs can be obtained from www.folkestoneacademy.com

Closing date for applications: 9th January 2009







Senior Economic Policy Officer

Thames Gateway Kent Partnership (TGKP) • £40,000 + Benefits

If you've proven economic analysis skills and a creative approach, this is your chance to play a central role in the growth of Thames Gateway - Europe's biggest regeneration project.

E-Mail: hr@swale.gov.uk Closing date: 29 Dec 2008 Interviews: expected to be held in Jan 2009

For further details on this position please see the full advert on http://jobs.swale.gov.uk or contact Human Resources, Tel (01795) 417414 (24 hour voice mail) quoting reference 300TG3.

Young Persons' Drug & Alcohol Service Co-ordinator Workforce Development (Kent)

£22,664 - £28,862 (SCP 27 - 35) plus up to £1,095 Essential Car User Allowance BASED CANTERBURY

KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors. Our Young Persons' Service provides drug and alcohol services across Kent and we work with young people, parents/carers and other agencies, delivering advice, information, support and prevention initiatives, ongoing casework and intensive interventions.

For several years we have delivered DUST (Drug Use Screening Tool) training across the county, commissioned by Kent Drug & Alcohol Action Team. We need someone to co-ordinate and deliver this programme, take a lead on other workforce development issues, as well as help develop good working relationships with the Local Childrens' Services
Partnerships and raise the profile of our services. You will also work with our internal training
team to develop training packages specific to staff working with young people.

You will need a thorough knowledge of substance misuse issues in relation to young people and a good understanding of the service framework within which we work in Kent. You must have considerable experience of delivering training and a flexible, self-motivated and committed approach.

An application form and job description can be obtained from

http://www.kca.org.uk/pages/vacancies.html or e-mail recruitment@kca.org.uk Alternatively, you can write to KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT or call: 01795 590635. Please quote reference 534.

Closing date: 19 December 2008.

Interview date: 9 January 2009.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charty Nez 292824



Full Time Administrator

required for a training company based at a rural business centre, just outside Canterbury. Duties to include telephone, filing and general administration. Salary £12,000 to £14,000 pa.

Please telephone Jeanette on 01227 831840 or via email jeanette@amacsports.co.uk for further information Closing date: Tuesday 23rd December 2008

A2 CABS LTD Full & Part Time TAXI DRIVER'S

Required Please contact

Elaine 01795 431500



Old Charlton Road.

TEACHER OF HISTORY

Able to teach up to GCSE History as part of a Team involved with PBL in Humanities at KS3
Apply in writing, enclosing a C.V. to Mr C.J. Atkin (Headteacher)
Closing date: 19th December 2008
Tel: 01304 201551 Fax: 01304 202226 Email: office@st-edmunds-dover.kent.sch.uk An enhanced CRB disclosure check will be required

Also ICT NETWORK MANAGER

37 hours per week - Full Time. Salary according to experience and qualifications. (£23,583 - £26,159 per annum) Apply in writing as above





Would you like to ensure vulnerable and homeless people have a

TRUSTEE/DIRECTOR

By volunteering your knowledge, skills and experience you will be an integral part of our vision of a society where homelessness and poverty are a thing of the past and where vulnerable people are empowered to take control of their lives.

Over the past ten years Porchlight has expanded its services from Canterbury to surrounding areas in East Kent. In the last year the charity has further grown to cover the whole of Kent after being awarded a contract by Kent Supporting people to run its outreach service across

Porchlight provides a host of services aimed at changing vulnerable people's lives for the better either through providing supported accommodation, tenancy sustainment support or by helping them gain access to specialist support from other organisations. Last year we helped over 1400 people change their lives for the better.

Then we want to hear from you. We are especially interested in people with skills or knowledge of supported housing, building maintenance, social care or public services.

In return for attending Board Meetings (one evening per month) you will be making a significant contribution in helping excluded and vulnerable

For an informal chat about the role or about the charity in general please call our Chief Executive, Mike Barrett on 01227 760078.

Application packs can be requested through the same number. by emailing recruitment@porchlight.org.uk or visiting our website www.porchlight.org.uk

We value diversity, Registered Charity No. 267116

www.porchlight.org.uk



Beneare Fostering OFSTED REGISTERED

Can you provide a safe and caring home for vulnerable children? We would love to hear from you if you are interested or involved in Fostering and would like additional information. Full training and support provided in addition to excellent rates of pay.

> For details please contact 01732 746697 info@benecarefostering.co.uk www.benecarefostering.co.uk

FULL TIME ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN

required for busy test equipment, recalibration & repair company. Knowledge of electronic test equipment would be preferred.

> Competitive salary depending on experience, plus bonus.

Hours 8.30am to 4.30pm Mon - Thurs, 8-30am - 4.00pm Friday

Send CV to Mr A Willis. Alpha Electronics (Southern) Ltd, Unit 16 Wren Ind Estate, Coldred Road, Maidstone, Kent ME15 9YT

Nicholas James Care Homes Ltd, Head Office, Dale Road, Southfleet, Kent DA13 9NX The above company require the following staff:

REGISTERED NURSES CARE ASSISTANTS KITCHEN ASSISTANTS **DOMESTIC ASSISTANTS**

In care homes situated in Maidstone, Southfleet, Canterbury, Whitstable, Herne Bay and Dover area

Fuji Seal Europe Ltd.

The Fuji Seal Group is the only shrink sleeve manufacturer offering a complete single source solution utilising its network of manufacturing operations in the UK, Netherlands, France, Poland,

PURCHASE LEDGER ASSISTANT

We are seeking a pro active, enthusiastic person to join our Finance department.

Computer literate, with an enthusiasm and flair for dealing with purchasing issues through to their conclusion, the jobholder will be responsible for all aspects of the purchase ledger. You will also be responsible for processing the company staff expenses

The jobholder must have excellent verbal and numerical skills and be able to work with tight deadlines. Teamwork is essential and the ability to develop good working relationships both within the company and with external

You'll enjoy a full range of employee benefits. To apply please send your CV to HR Department, Fuji Seal Europe Ltd, Scimitar Close, Gillingham Business Park, Cillingham, Kent MEB ORJ or alternatively you can email to jobs@uk.fujiseal.com

Closing date: 19 December 2008

Strictly no agencies.

Fuji Seal Europe are an equal opportunities employer

Ref: P0070

Ref: P0543

Ref: P0231

Ref: SFS01

Ref: SES02

Ref: MPR01

4 x Service Managers Psychological Therapies in Primary Care f31.551 - f40.440

BASED EITHER KENT OR EAST SURREY • PART TIME (18.75 HOURS) POSTS

Can you lead and inspire a successful service undergoing unprecedented expansion and challenge?

KCA provides a wide range of high quality, innovative primary care mental health services. As a result of significant development successes, we are recruiting for four new Service Managers, based across Kent and East Surrey.

You will be responsible for the day to day delivery of primary care mental health services in your area, focused on ensuring that the targets set by commissioners are achieved. You will work closely with commissioning teams, line manage psychological therapists and develop and manage partnerships with other agencies

There is an opportunity to take on clinical work in addition to your management responsibilities, this could be for one or two days a week making the role either four days a week or full time.

You will need experience of delivering or managing brief psychological therapies and a relevant qualification at diploma or degree level. A strong commitment to evidence based practice is vital and experience of quality assurance systems relevant to primary care/therapy (e.g. CORE) would be an advantage. You will need to be self-motivated, innovative, able to inspire your team and possess empathy balanced with the ability to achieve goals.

For an informal discussion, please contact Sam Downie, Assistant Director at sdownie@kca.org.uk

An application form and job description can be downloaded from http://www.kca.org.uk/pages/vacancies.html or email recruitment@kca.org.uk Alternatively, you can write to KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT or call 01795 590635. Please quote

Closing date: 5pm, 2 January 2009.

Interview date: 14 January 2009.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all. Charity No: 292824

www.kca.org.uk





MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Electrical Maintenance Technician

Salary: £15,057 - £18,534

The successful candidate will assist the Maintenance Manager in the maintenance and repair of electrical systems and carry-out testing, servicing and minor works, including replacement of electrical installations, fire and lighting systems. The applicant will be a qualified electrician and conversant with the 16th and/or 17th Edition Wirring Regulations.

Lecturer in Travel & Tourism

(Part-time 33 hours per week) Salary: £25,092 - £28,719 pro-rata

An opportunity has arisen for a Lecturer in Travel & Tourism. The main purpose of the role is to deliver and teach on a range of Travel and Tourism courses. You must have a relevant degree, ideally in Tourism and will have or be willing to work towards an appropriate teaching qualification within a specified timeframe.

Lecturer in Plumbing

Salary: £25,092 - £32,898 (depending on skills and experience)

The ideal candidate will have current knowledge and experience of the Building Services Industry and have a relevant trade qualification in plumbing. The successful candidate will have or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Sport

£19.74 to £28.28 per hour including holiday component

We are looking to recruit an hourly paid Lecturer for Sport to prepare, deliver, assess and teach on a range of courses, including BTEC National in Sports Science. The applicant will have a Sports Science or Sports related degree and be able to coach on a range of sporting activities.

Hourly Paid Lecturers/Reviewing Officer/Assessors

£19.74 to £28.28 per hour including holiday component

We are looking to recruit hourly paid Gas Trainers, Gas Assessors and Reviewing Officers/Assessors for Engineering and Welding and Lecturers in Plumbing and Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidates will have current knowledge and experience in their specialist field and a relevant trade qualification.

Aim-Higher Co-ordinator

(Maternity Cover - 30 hours per week, term-time) Salary: £17,861 - £22,907 pro-rata

The successful candidate will arrange, develop and deliver activities which will increase aspiration and awareness of opportunities in Higher Education and progression routes amongst learners currently enrolled at MidKent College and to lead in the support offered to learners with their applications into HE through the UCAS process.

Closing date: Friday, 16 January 2009

Mid-Kent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website wow.worklib.cu.k for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). It all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer











CAREERS HEALTHCARE A C R O S S A S

Your Skills Our Vision

Eastern and Coastal Kent

From Sheerness to Dungeness, Ashford to Ramsgate, over 710,000 people depend on Eastern and Coastal Kent NHS and we put them at the heart of everything we do. All our staff work hard every day to improve health and well-being for the local community, to tackle health inequalities and to provide high quality, responsive and efficient services, both directly and through commissioning.

As one of Kent's largest employers, we aim to employ and train a world-class workforce capable of meeting our many challenges. In return for your skills and commitment we offer wide-ranging staff benefits including real investment in personalised career development, flexible working, childcare, final salary pension scheme and in-house discounts

Why not join us?

- · Final salary pension scheme Occupational sickness benefit

- · Occupational health service

- Enhanced paternity pay Enhanced adoption pay
- · Extensive Training Programs

 - In-house discounts & external benefits

ADMIN AND CLERICAL/DOMESTIC SERVICES

Job Title: Domestic Assistant Salary: £12,517 to £13,617 pa Band: 1 Hours: 12 Location: Victoria Hospital, Deal Ref: 767-EHS661 Closing date: 19/12/08

Job Title: Porter / Domestic Salary: £12,517 to £13,617 pa Band: 1 Hours: 37.5 Location: Queen Victoria Mem Hours: 37.5 Location: Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital, Herne Bay Ref: 767-EHS663 Closing date: 19/12/08

Job Title: Service Level Agreement Manager Salary: £29,091 to £38,352 pa Band: 7

Band: 7 Hours: 37.5 Location: Templar House, Ashford Ref: 767-ECC673 Closing date: 19/12/08 Job Title: Domestic Assistant Salary: £12,517 to £13,617 pa Band: 1 Hours: 17

Hours: 17 Location: Protea House, Dover Ref: 767-EHS662 Closing date: 19/12/08

Job Title: Catering Assistant Salary: £12,517 to £13,617 pa

Satisty: E12,517 to E13,617 pa Band: 1 Hours: 24 Location: Sheppey Community Hospital Ref: 767-EHS664 Closing date: 19/12/08

Job Title: Clerical Officer Salary: £12,922 to £15,950 pa Band: 2 Hours: 37.5 Hours: 37.5 Location: Loan Equipment Store, Canterbury Ref: 767-ECS697 Closing date: As soon as a sufficient amount of applicants received

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY REGISTERED

Job Title: Community Nurse Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa Salary: £20,225 to £26,125 pa Band: 5 Hours: 37.5 Location: Ashford Comm Offices Ref: 767-ASH253 Closing date: 22/12/08

Job Title: Tissue Viability Nurse X 2 Salary: £37,106 - £44,527 pa Band: 8a Hours: 37.5

Location: Folkestone Ref: 767-EIC698 Closing date: 29/12/2008

Job Title: Community Children's Nurse Salary: £24,103 to £32,653 pa Band: 6

Location: Children' Assessment Centre, Kent & Canterbury Hospital Ref: 767-ECC655 Closing date: 31/12/2008

Job Title: Community Children's Nurse - Clinical Deputy
Salary: £37,106 to £44,527 pa
Band: 8a
Hours: 37.5 Hours: 37.5 Location: Children' Assessm Ref: 767-ECC656 Closing date: 31/12/2008 hildren' Assessment Centre, Kent & Canterbury Hospital

Job Title: Public Health Screening Nurse x 2 Salary: £24,103 - £32,653 Band: 6. Hours: 22.5 Location: Dover Ret: 767-ECC688 Closing date: 05/01/2009

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
Job Title: Speech and Language Therapist
Salary: £29,091 - c38,352
Band: 7
Hours: 18.75
Location: Old Railway School, Ashford
Ref: 767-ASH252
Closing date: £1/12/08
Job Title: Paediatric Occupational Therapist
Salary: £29,091 - c38,352
Band: 7
Hours: 37.5

Band: 7 Hours: 37.5 Location: Old Railway School, Ashford Ref: 767-ASH251 Closing date: 21/12/08

Job Title: Occupational Therapist (Learning Disabilities)

Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 p Band: 5 Location: Brook House, Chestfield Ref: 767-ASH246 Closing date: 05/01/2009

ADDITIONAL CLINICAL SERVICES

Job Title: Health Care Assistan Salary: £14,834 to £17,732 pa Band: 3 Hours: 8 riours: o Location: Royal Victoria Hospital, Folkestone Ref: 767-ASH249 Closing date: 22/12/08

Closing date: 22/12/08

Job Title: Health Care Assistant

Salary: £14,834 to £17,732 pa

Band: 3

Hours: 12

Location: Royal Victoria Hospital, Folkestone
Ref: 787-ASH248

Closing date: 22/12/08

Job Title: Health Promotion Practitioner Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa Band: 5

Band: 5
Hours: 37.5
Hours: 37.5
Location: Whitfield Court, Dover
Ref: 787-ECC690
Closing date: 3/11/2/2008
Job Title: Health Promotion Pract
Salary: £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Band: 5
Hours: 37.5
Location: Whitfield Court, Dover

Hours: 37.5 Location: Whitfield Court, Dover Ref: 767-ECC691 Closing date: 31/12/2008

Career Opportunities

#Canterbury College

Canterbury College is an equal opportunities employer

Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

Coordinator of Work Based Learning and other Part-time Motor Vehicle programmes including IMI ATA	CO106
37 hrs per week, salary starting £27,209 per annum	
Coordinator Animal Care and Land Based Studies	08/156
37 hrs per week, salary starting £27,209 per annum	
Coordinator Fabrication and Welding	08/157
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting £27,209 pro rata per annum	
Lecturer Fabrication and Welding	01/103
18.5 hrs per week salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum	
(Please note the above two posts could be combined to become one full time post.)	
Lecturer Mechanical Engineering	06/59
18.5 hrs per week salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum	
Lecturer HE Building Surveying	07/28
9.25 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum	
Lecturer Key Skills ICT - Health & Social Care	02/52
18.5 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum	
Lecturer Key Skills - Building Services	06/175
18.5 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum	
Lecturer Key Skills - Automotive Engineering	07/30
37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum	
Supply Student Mentors	S/SM
Various hours available , salary starting £16,914 pro rata per annum	3/3/1/
Project Co-ordinator - College Redevelopment	08/117
37 hrs per week, salary starting £18,963 per annum	00/11/
Supply Trainer Demonstrators - Electronic & Engineering	S/TD/EE
Various hours available, salary starting £18,963 pro rata per annum	OFIDIEL
Trainer Demonstrator - Mechanical or Electronic Engineering	TD1
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting £18,963 pro rata per annum	101
Trainer Demonstrator - Automotive Engineering	TD4
37 hrs per week, salary starting £18,963 per annum	104
Trainer Demonstrator - Wood Occupations	04/148
37 hrs per week, salary starting £18,963 per annum	0-1/1-10
Labourer - Wood Work Shop	RA4
37 hrs per week, salary starting £15,085 per annum	IVAT
Curriculum Support Assistant - Engineering & Construction	08/148
37 hrs per week, 40 weeks term time, salary starting £18,963 pro rata per annum	00/140
Curriculum Support Assistant - Health, Public Services and Care	08/131
2 x 18.5 or 1 x 37 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time. Salary starting £18,963 pro	00/131
rata per annum	
Learning Resources Assistant	LRCA1
37 hrs per week, salary starting £15,085 per annum	
Pre 16 Learning Support	07/67
37 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time. Salary starting £16,914 pro rata per annum	
Fixed term for one year.	
Pre 16 Learning Support	08/159
37 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time. Salary starting £16,914 pro rata per annum Fixed term ending 31 August 2010	
Database and Reporting Team Administrator	DBRA2
37 hrs per week, salary starting £18,963 per annum	
Supply Curriculum Support Assistant - Health, Public Services and Care	S/CSA
Various hours available , salary starting £18,375 pro rata per annum	
Online Exams Assistant	08/158
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting £15,085 pro rata per annum.	
Fixed term nost for one year	

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

37 hrs per week Salary starting £16.914 per annum (temporary fixed term contract)



· Pension & Life Assurance Scheme

Fixed term post for one year

Supply Maintenance Carpenter

- · Sports Hall & Gym
- Proximity to main bus & train stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- · Staff Discount Scheme

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 22nd December 2008 at 12 noon





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Colver Road Northfleet, Gravesend Kent DA11 8BG

Head: John Hassett MA

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Variety of companies raise funds for charity

THE business community has raised more than £9,000 for the Variety Club.

The money came from the annual golf

day of the Kent branch of the Institute of Directors.

Teams of four gathered at London Golf Club near Brands Hatch to take part in competition that included guest Sir

Henry Cooper from the Variety Club.

Before play started, former heavy-weight boxer Sir Henry handed over the keys of a new Sunshine Coach minibus to Canterbury charity Kent Kids Miles of Smiles, paid for by fund-raising carried

out all over the country.

The IOD Cup was presented to the winning team of Nick Crouch of Pegasus Home Improvements; Lee Lawrence, Lawrence Construction; Rob Hemmens, Hemmens Financial Service; and captained by Chapel Down's Guy Tresnan.

Learn about marketing skills over breakfast

A SERIES of business breakfasts offering marketing help has been organised

by the Kent branch of the Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM). Aimed at the country's small and medium sized businesses, Simply Better Marketing will help people make the

most of marketing resources.

They are being run with Business Link and hosted by Canterbury Christ Church University at Hall Place Enterprise Centre, Harbledown. They are on February 25, March 25, and April 30.

The Kent branch of the CIM has more than 1,000 members spread across the county. For details, visit www.cim.co.uk.

Be guided from worry

PEOPLE worried about losing their jobs can get help from Beguided Careers Advisory Services.

"Making the right move now to gear up Maning the right into the low to gear the for the grim years ahead could be crucial for future job stability," said Michael Robinson, president and founder of the Canterbury consultancy.

Mr Robinson says there are growth areas in the challenges of climate change and the appropriate grown program.

and the environment, green power generation and biotechnology, carbon trading, medical engineering, IT and computing, as well as specialist fields of finance.

Leader's ten points to healthier business

KCC's proactive effort to beat the recession gloom

BY TONY PATEY

KENT County Council leader Paul Carter has launched a wide-ranging ten-point plan aimed at pumping some energy into the county's beleaguered business community.

As a new year looms with the prospect of a recession Mr Carter unveiled measures such as the council paying businesses what they're owed quicker, making it easier for firms to bid for contracts and a new business information

He told delegates of around 100 local firms and organisations at a business breakfast in Maidstone, held in conjunction with Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce: "I am determined we will support Kent businesses as far as is possible through this difficult economic

"As chairman of the county's Public Sector Board I will be encouraging other public sector agencies to do likewise."

He said: "I want to ensure there are as many

Kent jobs created for Kent people as possible. "KCC is one of the biggest employers in the

county and spends 40 per cent of its budget on goods and services - more than £320 million every year - with small and medium sized Kent businesses.

"For example, a Kent firm, R Durtnell and Sons Ltd, will build the Turner Contemporary Gallery in Margate, creating employment opportunities and a focal point for regeneration in Thanet.



ACTION: Paul Carter, leader of Kent County Council, hopes to give the business community a boost

"And the £600 million Building Schools for the Future Programme is already being delivered in large part by Kent architects and builders, alongside their commitment to 400 local apprenticeships.

"I want to do even more and make it easier for local firms to access contracts like these and take advantage of others in the region such as the construction of the Olympic sites.

We will also aim to pay our suppliers quicker and help businesses to access grant aid. His ten-point plan is:

- Speed up the payment of invoices from 30 days to 20; in some cases this is down to seven days already.
- · Drive forward KCC's capital programme of £850 million over the next two years to provide more employment opportunities for Kent
- Establish what is called Kent Property Enterprise Fund 2, placing KCC's vacant unsold property assets into a fund to be worked up into joint venture developments

- with the private sector.

 Expand KCC's approved list of contractors.

 Streamline KCC's contracts to make it easier for small and medium sized firms to apply for council contracts and open up and raise awareness of tendering opportunities in and outside Kent.
- Provide a 'Kent Business Support Centre' on KCC's website and through a team of advisers
- To sweisite and through a team of advisers to improve access to council procurement and support. This should be going live next month.

 Support and signpost businesses to grant aid available through regional, national and European channels.
- Lobby government for a reduction and removal of unnecessary regulation and bureaucracy.
- Encourage and facilitate consortia of Kent businesses to compete for larger public sector contracts outside of Kent.
- Review Kent's 'marketing' and promote Kent's USPs unique selling points.

 Later Mr Carter told KOS Media he is meet-

ing Thames Gateway minister Margaret Beckett next month to talk about housing issues and he'll be pushing for more flexibility in planning guidance.

There has got to be some relaxation on housebuilders. At the moment you have to be barking mad to build new homes where there are not the mortgage funds available and there's got to be a reality check on some of the requirements placed upon housebuilders – be more flexible to stimulate the industry."

He also said the county's economic regeneration strategy would be published next month.





DEADLOCK: Gore Court (right) battled their way to a draw against top side Wimbledon

Court keep promotion hopes alive

HOCKEY

Gore Court 2 Wimbledon 2

PROMOTION remains a real possibility for Gore Court after they held league-leaders Wimbledon to a draw at the Westlands School.

The game was always going to be tight, between the two best sides in the league and so it proved. Court had a number of early chances but were unable to break the deadlock.

Both sides pressed for an opening and a fine move from Gore Court saw Nick Wilcher set up Richard Dixon with a chance to score, only to see the Wimbledon goalkeeper make a fine save to keep the score level.

The second half was vital to Court's hope of promotion, but it did not start as they had planned.

not start as they had planned.

A dangerous aerial pass from Wimbledon went unseen by the umpire and from the resulting breakaway, Wimbledon scored, while at the same time Aaron Glass was sin binned for trying to control the aerial. Down to ten and with Wimbledon's tails up, the game was

in the balance.

However, Court showed the resilience that has been the hallmark of their play this year and weathered the storm.

Court were awarded a short corner and Glass, now back on the pitch, fired a flick on the bar and Adam Hart was there to put in the rebound. With 20 minutes to go Court really began to dominate and created a number of good chances, with Hart and Dixon both going

However, with only a few minutes left, Wimbledon broke and with a slick passing move scored what looked like the winning goal.

Once again though Court were not to be denied and clever stick skills

from Greg Laurenson won a short corner with only two minutes remaining. Despite the pressure, Glass stepped up and flicked the ball into the roof of the net.

It was a well deserved point and sees Court enter the Christmas break only two points off the top of South Hockey Division Two.

Sunday league joins respect campaign

THE Sheppey Sunday League are the latest association in Kent to adopt the FA's Respect campaign.

The league held a meeting with its

clubs to discuss how the campaign would work and have agreed to sign up to it.

Mark Rogers, of the Sheppey Sunday League, said: "I think everyone was enlightened by the evening and we now need to work hard to get the campaign up and running fully. It was stated at the meeting it will not be a short-term fix and will be an ongoing programme but

we have made a positive start.
"The council have done their bit by adding spectator lines and private grounds are following suit."

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Gills boss Mark Stimson on his plans for the club's FA Cup windfall

Bad weather cancels games across league

HEAVY rain over the weekend caused all fixtures in the Kent County League to be cancelled.

It meant Sheerness East's game with Bromley Green fell foul of the weather and they remain bottom of the Premier Division with just a solitary point.

Milton and Fulston United were without

a game but return to action on Saturday when they go to Stansfeld O & B Club. In Division One East, AFC Sheppey

missed out on the chance to close the gap on leaders Canterbury City as their clash with bottom side Lydd Town was aban-doned. They return to action on Saturday with the trip to mid-table APM Mears







NOT FOR SALE: Striker Damian Able is staying at Salters Lane, so says determined Faversham Town boss Justin Luchford (right)

Luchford insists: Abel's staying with Lilywhites

FAVERSHAM Town manager Justin Luchford has issued a hands-off warning to potential suitors in the hunt for star striker Damian Abel.

The Lilywhites forward tops the Kent League scoring charts with 13 goals so far this campaign and has been a major reason for Faversham's rise to fifth in the Premier

However, success in football breeds rumours, as former clubs Folkestone Invicta and Hythe Town have been rumoured to be interested in his services while others claim Whitstable Town have expressed an interest.

Luchford denied Whitstable had put in a seven-day request to speak to the striker and insists Abel will not be leaving Salters Lane.

He told Yourswale: "The short answer is no

one has put a seven-day approach for Damian and even if they did, I can't see him going at all.

FOOTBALL

BY GLENN PEARSON

As far as I am concerned he is here to stay." According to Luchford, Abel had contemplated giving up playing football after an unsuccessful campaign last season where he had spells at Folkestone, Ramsgate and Hythe, where he failed to live up to his potential.

After bringing the striker to Salters Lane last season, the Faversham boss feels he is capable

of getting the best out of his forward and looks as though he enjoys playing for the Lilywhites, so there is no reason for him to want a move

"Other clubs have ended up playing him wide right which he can do, but he's so much happier playing through the middle and that can be seen in the amount of goals he's scored," Luchford said. "When he scores goals he feels good about himself. He has been a great signing for us and his attitude is spot on.

"He loves the club and has friends here. He is going nowhere and especially not to a team that we could be playing in the Kent League next year.

While the Lilywhites have performed well with their youthful looking side, they are going to be delving into the transfer market as Luchford has his eves on at least two central midfielders to help bolster the Faversham midfield.

Town have taken Gillingham youngster Jacob Arnold-Smith on work experience, which means he can stay for an indefinite period until the League Two decide to recall him. Arnold-Smith will continue to train with the Gillingham youth team during his stay at Salters Lane

• Faversham's Kent Senior Trophy tie with Orpington was cancelled at the weekend as a result of a waterlogged pitch.
The game is rescheduled for Saturday.

Brickies well placed for festive play-off charge

FOOTBALL

BY GLENN PEARSON

SITTINGBOURNE manager Gary Abbott is targeting an unbeaten run towards the end of the year to help his side finally clinch a playoff place.

The Brickies had yet another game fall foul of the weather on Saturday, as their clash with Merstham at Bourne Park was called off due to a waterlogged pitch. It means Abbott's side have as many as four games in hand on their rivals – including Ashford Town who occupy the final play-off place, but are just a point above them.

A narrow win against bottom side Crowborough Athletic last Tuesday night made it three wins in a row for Sittingbourne, who head into the festive period with an opportunity to break into the Ryman South's too five.

top five.

They had to come from behind to beat Crowborough 3-2, with goals from Matt Bourne, Nick Reeves and Richard Brady's 14th of the season, which netted Sittingbourne an important three points as they head for a defining period of the campaign.

defining period of the campaign.

Abbott's side played Cray Wanderers last night, which is followed up with another away game at league leaders Kingstonian next Sunday.

Having won a staggering nine games on the road already this season, Abbott claims there is nothing to fear in travelling to play the league's ton two sides

league's top two sides. He said: "It's a real big week for us. As long





TARGET: Gary Abbott is aiming for a play-off place in the New Year with the help of top scorer Richard Brady

as we don't get beat in those games I think we could be in the play-offs going into the New Year. We've won nine games away which is excellent so we are happy about playing away on what will be two good pitches so we are really looking forward to them."

The Brickies manager was pleased to come away with the three points on what he described as a "sticky" Crowborough pitch last week. Sittingbourne were without defender Ian Varley who was missing through injury, while influential midfielder Rio Alderton limped up with a reoccur-

rence of his knee injury after just six minutes. Abbott said: "It was a real battle on what was a joke of a pitch really. It took us a while to get going but we ended up controlling the game and could have scored more if we had

taken our chances."

Abbott also revealed that youngster Dave Milton has left the club in search of first team football, with Chatham Town his most likely destination.

 Sittingbourne were in action away to Kent rivals Cray Wanderers last night. For a report and reaction, visit www.vourswale.co.uk

CRICKET



BACKING: Kent coach Simon Willis

Willis backs Khan England call-up

KENT coach Simon Willis has backed Amjad Khan to break into the Test team and expects fellow paceman Robbie Joseph to join him in a future England bowling attack.

Danish-born Khan was called up to the Test squad for the series with India to replace the injured Ryan Sidebottom, after impressing while at an England training camp in Abu Dhabi.

The Kent fast bowler narrowly missed out on his England debut in the first Test as captain Kevin Pietersen opted to give a debut to spinner Graeme Swann instead. If he were to play in the second Test in

If he were to play in the second Test in Mohali, which begins on Friday, it would cap a miraculous comeback from the 28-year-old. Khan spent 16 lonely months on the sidelines recovering from a cruciate ligament injury which threatened to end a promising career. However, after making his long-awaited return to the Kent team midway through the season, he played just a handful of games for the county before getting an England call-up.

Willis, his coach at Canterbury, admitted

Willis, his coach at Canterbury, admitted he was slightly shocked that Khan made the squad so soon but believes his hard work on the road to recovery justifies his inclusion.

"Amjad is a very focused individual," he said. "He put in a lot of hard hours to get back from injury and I think England have noticed that. He obviously has that raw pace and the ability to reverse swing the ball in dry conditions, which is a big advantage when touring somewhere like India.

when touring somewhere like India.
"The call-up will give him a massive boost because he has sat 12 months on crutches and now he is on the fringes of the Test side. I'm sure he will come back in the summer looking to take wickets for Kent."

looking to take wickets for Kent."
Fellow county team-mate Robbie Joseph was also part of the training in Abu Dhabi and although he didn't make the full squad Willis believes he is one for the future.

"RJ had a fantastic summer but he is probably a lot more unknown to those in the England set-up than Amjad," he said. "Robbie has just come out of the second team but I am sure when they see a bit more of him he will also stand a good chance of making the England side."

LEAGUE TABLES
(Not including midweek games)

RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

	r	VV	υ	L	Ga	Pι
1 Kingstonian	19	12	5	2	+25	41
2 Cray Wanderers	20	12	3	5	+18	39
3 Metropolitan Police	20	10	7	3	+14	37
4 Fleet Town	19	9	7	3 5	+17	34
5 Ashford Town	22	8	9	5	+13	33
6 Worthing	18	9	6	3	+9	33
7 Dulwich Hamlet (-3)	21	10	5	6	+11	32
8 Walton & Hersham	20	9	5	6	+4	32
9 Sittingbourne	18	10	2 7	6	+2	32
10 Folkestone Invicta	20	8		5	+4	31
11 Merstham	19	9	4	6	+2	31
12 Godalming Town	20	8	5	7	+11	29
13 Eastbourne Town	21	8	3	10	+1	27
14 Leatherhead	18	7	3	8	-10	24
15 Whyteleafe	19	7	2	10	-5	23
16 Burgess Hill Town	19	5	5	9	-5	20
17 Croydon Athletic	20	5	5	10	-7	20
18 Corinthian-Casuals	21	4	6	11	-20	18
19 Chipstead	20	4	6	10	-20	18
20 Whitstable Town	21	5	2	14	-26	17
21 Walton Casuals	20	4	4	12	-15	16
22 Crowborough Ath	21	3	3	15	-23	12

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

ILITI LLAUUL	LVI	TIAITEI	DIA.	TOTOM	IAD	LL
1 Holmesdale	15	10	3	2	+16	33
2 Hythe Town	14	10	2	2	+18	32
3 Tunbridge Wells	13	10	0	3	+12	30
4 Herne Bay	14	8	1	5	+10	25
5 Faversham Town	12	8	0	4	+23	24
6 Deal Town	14	5	4	5	+2	19
7 Sevenoaks Town	14	5	4	5	0	19
8 Erith & Belvedere	10	6	1	3	-1	19
9 Greenwich Borough	13	6	1	6	-2	19
10 Erith Town	12	5	3	4	+5	18
11 Slade Green	15	5	3	7	-2	18
12 VCD Athletic	11	5	1	5	+11	16
13 Norton Sports	12	5	- 1	6	-8	16
14 Beckenham Town	15	4	2	9	-3	14
15 Croydon	11	4	1	6	-1	13
16 Lordswood	13	1	1	11	-21	4
17 Sporting Bengal Utd	14	0	0	14	-59	0

FIXTURES (Saturday): Ryman Division One South: Sittingbourne v Merstham. Kent League Premier Division: Sporting Bengal United v Norton Sports. Kent Senior Trophy second round: Faversham Town v Orpington

Downpour extends Norton game drought

FOOTBALL

FOUR games cancelled on the bounce has left Norton Sports manager Ben Taylor and his players feeling just a little frustrated.

players feeling just a little frustrated.
The newly-promoted side had their game with bottom side Sporting Bengal cancelled at the weekend as a result of the heavy rain that hit the county, which means Taylor's side have yet to play a competitive game since the 4-1 defeat at Beckenham Town on November 15.

Taylor said: "We are all really frustrated as it was the fourth game to be cancelled. What's more annoying is that I have a one-match ban still to get through while Tommy Price still has to sit out two more. It means he won't have played for about seven weeks by the time he is back for us."

While Norton have been without a game, one of their newest recruits, Leigh Hales, son of former Charlton legend Derek Hales, has been playing at Ryman Division One South side Ashford Town.

The forward, who used to play for Kent youth, has only played a handful of games for Norton, but did enough for Steve Lovell's scouts to notice him and snap him up. Hales has returned to Winch's Field to improve his fitness before returning to Homelands with Ashford.

Taylor said he couldn't stand in the striker's way and expects bigger sides to come in for more of his players in the future.



DISRUPTION: Norton (in red) have not played for more than a month

He said: "The more established they get the more likely they are to be recognised by teams in higher divisions. There are three or four that could I'm sure could make the step up."

Norton hope to return to action on Saturday when they entertain landlords Herne Bay at Winch's Field.

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Spice Award Winning





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